

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Lok Sabha passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2008 on 22nd December, 2008 and it received the assent of the President on 5th February, 2009.

(c) to (e) The Supreme Court Registry has informed that "the Judges have not been elevated to the Bench of the Supreme Court so far due to non-availability of accommodation and that delay in appointment of Judges is resulting in accumulation of cases."

Funds for judicial administration

2489. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Judicial Panel, headed by Justice M. Jagannadha Rao, has opined that the Planning Commission and Finance Commission must, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, allocate sufficient funds for judicial administration, to ensure the basic human right of access to speedy justice; and

(b) if so, whether the prevailing position of 13 Judges for 10 lakh population in India, would be improved, to bring it near the global standard of 150 Judges, to cater to the population of 10 lakh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Task Force on Judicial Impact Assessment under the Chairmanship of Justice M. Jagannadha Rao has, *inter alia*, made such a recommendation.

(b) The Law Commission in its 120th Report recommended that the strength of judges per million population may be increased from 10.5 to 50 judges per million population.

With regard to Subordinate Judiciary, the Supreme court, in its judgment of 21st March, 2002, in *All India Judges' Association & Ors.*, directed that an increase in the Judge strength from the existing 10.5 or 13 per 10 lakh people to 50 Judges per 10 lakh people should be effected and implemented within a period of five years in a phased manner to be determined and directed by the Union Ministry of Law. The Central Government has filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court praying that the increase in judge strength in the Union Territories, for which Central Government is administratively responsible, be allowed based on workload and pendency of cases. The matter is sub-judice.

Rise in pending court cases

†2490. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.