

Law Commission was enacted in 1973 and amended in 1978 and 1980.

3. The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act 1956 was amended in 1977 to provide for a raise in the judge strength of the Supreme Court from 13 to 17 (excluding the Chief Justice).

4. The Supreme Court Rules have been amended to vest more powers in the Registrars and Judges in Chambers so that the time of the court is not wasted in petty miscellaneous matters.

5. The Supreme Court have also taken the following measures ;

(i) Priority is given to certain matters.

(ii) Miscellaneous matters are fixed daily,

(iii) Writ petitions with identical questions are grouped together and batches running from 50 to 1000 matters are listed together for hearing.

(iv) Other matters involving identical questions are also identified from time to time and put together and efforts are made to see that such groups are disposed of early.

(v) The Supreme Court Rules were revised in 1966 providing for printing of records under its own supervision. As that was also taking quite some time the court of late has started wherever possible dispensing with the preparation of records and hearing the appeals on special leave paper-book itself after the parties have filed their counter-affidavits and affidavits in reply.

6. The Government have also appointed Law Commission (10th Law Commission) to keep under review the system of judicial administration in the country. Among the terms of reference of the Law Commission are :

(a) To keep under review the system of judicial administration to ensure that it is responsive to the re-

asonable demands of the times and in particular to secure :—

(i) elimination of delays, speedy clearance of arrears and reduction in costs so as to secure quick and economical disposal of cases without affecting the cardinal principle that decisions should be just and fair;

(ii) Simplification of procedure to reduce and eliminate technicalities and devices for delay so that it operated not as an end in itself but as a means of achieving justice; and

(iii) improvement of standards of all concerned with the administration of Justice.

(b) To revise the Central Acts of general importance so as to simplify them and to remove anomalies, ambiguities and inequities.

(c) To recommend to the Government measures for bringing the Statute book up-to-date by repealing obsolete laws and enactments or parts thereof which have outlived their utility.

Rotation of reserved seats in Legislatures

1407. SHRI KRISHNA MOHAN BHAMTJIDIPATI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations for rotation of reserved seats in the various State Legislatures; and

(b) if so, what measures are being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of Government.