

Bifurcation of the Supreme Court of India

57. SHRI SHIV CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to bifurcate the Supreme Court of India into Constitutional Court and the Court of Appeals with one Chief Justice;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the provisions of Article 124 of the Constitution there can be only one Supreme Court in the country.

Number of special leave petitions filed in the Supreme Court

58. SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE:

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

(a) what is the number of petitions for special leave to appeal under the provisions of Constitution of India which were filed before the Supreme Court of India during the last three years from 1st January, 1979;

(b) what is the number of such petitions which are still pending for admission hearing before the Supreme Court for more than one year from the date of filing;

(c) what are the reasons for the same; and

(d) what is the number of petitions disposed of during the above mentioned period?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) As per the information furnished by the Registry of the Supreme Court the number of Special Leave Petitions filed during 1979, 1980 and 1981 are 14,390, 15,014 and 14,947 respectively.

(b) Number of petitions pending for more than one year as on 31-12-81 is 5561.

(c) There is a heavy institution of cases in the Supreme Court and this has resulted in a backlog. The Supreme Court has to arrange its work keeping various priorities in view. Occasionally larger benches are constituted to hear important constitutional matters. Such larger benches have to be constituted depending upon the matters and nature of question involved. Further special category of matters like Habeas Corpus Petitions, Election appeals, Tax appeals and Criminal appeals involving capital sentences have to be given priority. These are among the complex reasons for the accumulation of pending petition.

(d) Number of petitions disposed of during 1979, 1980 and 1981 is 11,309, 12,581 and 13,682 respectively.

Capital investment of Reliance Textiles Industries

59. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capital investment of the Reliance Textiles Industries Limited has risen from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 3200 lakhs during the last decade;