

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase the retirement age of High Court Judges from 62 to 65; and

(b) if so, what steps Government is going to take to accomplish this task, and when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has decided to introduce an appropriate Bill in the Parliament to suitably amend the relevant articles of the Constitution.

#### **New courts for accident cases**

2344. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to set up 600 new courts for accident cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when they are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Permanent circuit benches of High Court**

2345. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the High Courts which have permanent circuit benches and their locations, State-wise;

(b) what is the yardstick to establish a circuit bench of a High Court;

(c) whether Government proposes for the establishment of High Court benches at Berhampur and Sambalpur, the southern and western towns respectively in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A list showing the benches of various High Courts is given in Statement (*See below*).