

technology infrastructure in superior courts and for electronically linking all the courts. Phase-I of the scheme is currently under implementation. The current status of the Project is as under:

- Readiness of sites - Site readiness for computerization has been completed in respect of 10255 courts which accounts for 69.5% of the total number of courts in the country.
- Computer Hardware - Computer hardware like desktops, printers, scanners, servers etc. have been delivered at 6727 lower judiciary courts and installed at 3138 lower judiciary courts.
- Local Area Network and Internet connectivity - Items for enabling connectivity between all computer infrastructure at the courts (LAN items) have been delivered at 5456 courts, and installed at 3448 courts. Moreover, internet connectivity has been provided at Judges home offices for a period of 2 years. Broadband internet connectivity has been provided to 10744 Judges and 1758 court complexes.
- Application software - Application Software for enabling delivery of above services has been installed at 1455 courts.
- Computing equipment - Laptops have been provided to 14309 Judicial Officers and laser printers have been provided to 12599 Judicial officers.
- Training - ICT Training on basic computer skills and use of Linux Operating System has been imparted to 9563 Judges, and 36605 court staff across the country.
- Support Technical Manpower - In order to support the judges and court staff with various technical issues and to impart ICT training to them, 667 staff have been deployed as technical manpower at Supreme Court, High Courts, and Judicial districts.
- Service delivery - Service delivery has been initiated at 229 courts in Kerala.

(c) The revised timelines for completion of first phase of the project have now been proposed as March, 2012.

Increasing retirement age of Judges

2349. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Justice Venkatachaliah headed Committee to review the working of the Constitution had suggested increasing the retirement age of Supreme Court Judges and High Court Judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution, headed by Shri M.N. Venkatachaliah, had recommended "The retirement age of the Judges of the High Court should be increased to 65 years and that of the Judges of the Supreme Court should be increased to 68 years."

Separately, in acceptance of the recommendation of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice given in its 39th Report for increasing the age of retirement of Judges of the High Courts from 62 years to 65 years, Government has decided to bring appropriate amendment in the Constitution of India.

Eviction of tribals due to mining activities at Niyamgiri hills in Orissa

2350. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dungari Kodh Tribals are facing eviction on account of mining activities in the Niyamgiri Hills in Orissa;

(b) the action proposed by Government to protect primary human right of their own age-old habitat; and

(c) whether the Minister is aware about Attack on aboriginals due to mining petition circulated by the Amnesty International?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) Prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mining lease to M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Limited for Bauxite in Niyamgiri Dongar area of village Lanjigarh in the districts of Kalahandi and Rayagada over an area of 721.323 hectares was accorded on 13.9.2004. The Government of Orissa has informed that mining lease for the said area has not been granted to the Company for want of final forest clearance. Before