

initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of a High Court lies with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. He consults the two seniormost Judges regarding the suitability of the names proposed and forward the proposal to the State Constitutional authorities who, along with their comments, send the proposal to the Union Government. The Union Government obtains confidential report on the recommendee's character, antecedents and integrity, etc.

The complete information along with the confidential report of the recommendees are made available to the Chief Justice of India for consideration by the Supreme Court Collegium. The advice tendered by the Collegium is submitted for consideration of the President.

(d) and (e) In respect of Khajia Md. Majmil, who was a practicing advocate and was appointed as District Judge under the Karnataka Judicial Services (Recruitment) Rules, 1983 and joined service on 15th May, 1996, Hon'ble Supreme Court upheld the order of removal from service.

Vacations in higher judiciary

2342. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to do away with the vacations of the Supreme Court and the High Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has received many representations in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Vacation in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is governed by the Rules/Regulations framed by the concerned Court. Government have received representations favouring abolition of vacation in the High Courts and Supreme Court.

Retirement age of judges

2343. SHRI H.K. DUA:

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL:

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

(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*).