

Cases pending in High Court.-

374. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA.
SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN
ARIF:

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

(a) the number of cases which have been pending in various High Courts for 20 years or more; and

(b) the steps Government have contemplated to augment the strength of the High Courts to expedite disposal of backlog of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) A Statement giving the requisite information is attached.

(b) Proposals *or augmenting the Judge strength received from the State Governments are given prompt attention in the Government of India.

Statement

Number of cases pending in various High Courts for 20 years or more.

| Name of the High Court | Number of cases pending |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Allahabad | 10 |
| 2. Andhra Pradesh | Nil |
| 3. Bombay | 1 |
| 4. Calcutta | 292 |
| 5. Delhi — | Nil |
| 6. Gauhati | 3 |
| 7. Gujarat | Nil |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | Nil |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | Nil |
| 10. Karnataka | Nil |
| 11. Kerala | Nil |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | 3 |
| 13. Madras | Nil |

| Name of the High Court | Number of cases pending |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 14. Orissa | Nil |
| 15. Patna | Nil |
| 16. Punjab and Haryana | Nil |
| 17. Rajasthan | Nil |
| 18. Sikkim | Nil |
| TOTAL | 309 |

Loss in Coal India Limited

375. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN
ARIF:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the loss suffered by Coal India Limited in 1979 and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to increase production in The Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) According to the provisional unaudited accounts, the loss of Coal India Ltd. during 1979-80 has been estimated at Rs. 135 crores which, is mainly due to unremunerative price of coal which continued upto the middle of July, 1979 when the coal prices were revised and the loss in production because of shortage of power, explosives, etc.

(b) Some of the measures adopted to increase coal production are: —

(1) Attempts are being made to improve power generation in DVC which supplies the bulk of the power to collieries in Eastern India where production has been affected due to power shortage.

(2) Import of explosives has been arranged to cover the gap between demand and indigenous availability.

(3) Instructions have been issued for the allotment of diesel on a priority basis to the Coal Industry.

(4) Steps are being formulated to curb absenteeism among workers which is usually heavy in the first three months of the year.

(5) The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the law and order machinery in area., where production has been affected by frequent disruptions in the law and order. A close watch is being kept on the situation; and

(6) Assistance of the State Governments has been sought in expediting land acquisition for commencing new projects.

Conversion of Films Division into Autonomous Body

376. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to wind up the working group set up to determine the feasibility of converting the Film? Division into an Autonomous Body; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): (a) and (b) Government have already wound up the Working Group on Films Division with effect from 15th February, 1980, because there is no need to delink Films Division from the Government. Film is a powerful source for national integration and the documentaries help the people to grasp the ideals of the country. Films Division 'enjoys adequate functional autonomy and great films, even dramatic and poetic. films, can be and have been made within the existing framework of the Films Division.

Legislation amending the law relating to 'rap

377. DR. BAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to

(a) whether Government has taken note of the strong resentment voiced by many social organisations of women against the judgment of the Supreme Court in the Mathura rape case; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestions made in this regard are under consideration of Government.

Production and Distribution of Coal

378. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coal produced and distributed to various States, in relation to their requirements during the current year;

(b) whether Government are aware that a number of industries could not utilize their capacities due to shortage of coal supplied to them during the current year; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve coal supplies?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) 93.21 million tonnes of coal was produced from April 1979 to February 1980. The demand for coal is assessed on an All India basis in respect of the various consuming sectors and not State-wise. The consumption of coal by the major consuming States for the year 1978-79 is as under:

| States | (Million Tonnes) |
|----------------|------------------|
| Bihar | 15.90 |
| West Bengal | 12.90 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 11.24 |
| Orissa | 3.88 |
| Maharashtra | 5.21 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 19.59 |
| Assam | 0.31 |