

the performance of the company in the context of their exports and have advised the concerned authorities to permit remittances which were held in abeyance.

Restrictive Trade Practices by Hindustan Lever Limited

594. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'New Age Weekly' in July, 1976, under the heading "What is the M.R.T.P. going to do about this case?" in relation to restrictive trade practices followed by M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to stop these restrictive trade practices by company and with what results ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) Government has seen the news item. In the specific case dealt with therein, no complaint of any restrictive trade practice was made to the M.R.T.P. Commission against the company and no action was, therefore, taken thereon by the Commission. However, in pursuance of a restrictive trade practice inquiry already instituted by the Commission against this company on 5-7-74 the Commission issued a 'Cease and Desist' order on the 17th March, 1976 restraining the company, *inter alia*, from continuing to indulge in the restrictive trade practice of territorial restriction; but the company has filed an appeal against this order of the Commission and the matter is now before the Supreme Court.

Committee of High Court Judges for disposal of cases

595. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have recently asked the State Governments to appoint committees (High Court Judges in order to ensure speedy disposal of cases; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) and (b) The State Governments were requested to set up Committees at District and State level, to review the progress in regard to trial and investigation of cases and suggest remedial measures that are required on an urgent basis. It was also brought to the notice of the State Governments that some High Courts have established Committees of Judges of the High Court to review the output of subordinate courts. This was commended to the State Governments along with certain other measures.

Laying of Railway Lines in the Backward Areas of Madhya Pradesh

596. SHRI BALRAM DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to relax the condition of economic viability regarding laying of Railway lines in backward and tribal areas in the country; and

(b) if so, what is the number of such railway lines in the backward areas of Madhya Pradesh proposed to be laid during the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) While presenting the Railway Budget 1973-74, the then Railway Minister had highlighted the need for the following conceptual changes with a view to make it financially possible for the Railways to construct new Railway lines in the backward and hilly regions of