

**\*Demand to fill the vacant posts of judges in  
Jharkhand High Court**

SHRI SANJIV KUMAR (Jharkhand): The creation of Jharkhand State in the year 2000 inherited the legacy by its High Court to function with lesser judges. The population of the State has crossed over 3 crores and the strength of Judges in the High Court is 20, whereas, the present strength of Judges is 11 and the pendency of cases has crossed 60,000.

Incessant clamour by the legal fraternity to fill vacant posts of High Court Judges fell in deaf ears and the justice system in the State has been hanging in balance. The criminal justice system has been impaired and bail applications, revisions and appeals are not being disposed off expeditiously.

Jharkhand being a State of coal and mine-bearing areas and has sizeable forest cover, cases involving various environmental clearances for industries and projects are not being disposed of expeditiously simply because the High Court is facing serious crisis of shortage of judges.

Overworked and exasperated with large number of cases, the sitting Judges are relentlessly working to keep the justice system in the State in motion, but the fact that they are being expected to accomplish the impossible task cannot be ignored.

Being the Member of Jharkhand High Court Bar, I have personally experienced the problems of the people of the State, members of the Bar and the Bench of both the High Court as well as its subordinate courts. I therefore demand that all the vacant posts may be filled as early as possible.

**\*Demand to sanction additional funds for Indira Awas Yojana to  
assist people affected due to the cyclone Phailin in Odisha**

SHRIMATI RENU BALA PRADHAN (Odisha): Sir, Cyclone Phailin which hit Odisha in the month of October, last year, damaged crops, houses, properties, infrastructures etc. Thousands of poor families, especially in Ganjam district, have been rendered homeless. Most of them are still living in miserable condition with only polythene sheets covering the damaged houses. The poor are not able to reconstruct their houses due to poverty. The assistance being provided for rebuilding the houses are insufficient.

I appeal the Rural Development Ministry to sanction additional funds under Indira

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\*Laid on the Table of the House.