

Setting up of All India Judicial Service

1864. SHRIMATI SASIKALAPUSHPA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up an All India Judicial Service to recruit judicial officers in the lower courts of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether an Advisory Council had been set up in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely time by when this Service will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. 15 State Governments and 18 High Courts have furnished their views. Divergence of opinion among the State Governments and High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service still persists.

Increasing the strength of judges in Supreme Court

1865. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of pendency of cases before the Supreme Court, Government is of the opinion that the strength of judges requires to be increased;

(b) whether Government, at present, is considering to increase the strength of judges from 25 to 30;

(c) whether Government is considering to increase the age limit for the Supreme Court Judges from 65 years to 67 years; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court feels shortage of space, which has resulted into less number of courts, if so, the action plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) The strength of the Judges of the Supreme Court was increased from 25 to 30