

endeavor of the Government to enhance bilateral trade through various trade promotion measures.

Review of environmental laws by Law Commission

*177. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has since completed its review of the Country's Environmental Laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cases relating to environment are mounting in the Country day by day; and

(d) if so, by when the Environmental Courts are likely to be set up in various parts of the Country for speedier disposal of cases relating to environment?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) and (b) The Law Commission has informed that it has taken up the study of environmental laws. As part of the study, the need for setting up of environmental courts is also being considered. The study is still in progress.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has informed that the Special Courts have been set up by the different State Governments to deal with the environment cases filed under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi have set up Special Courts. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has also directed to set up Green Benches in various High Courts. The High Courts of West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have constituted Green Benches.

Advertisements by DAVP

*178. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Urdu daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and magazines to which DAVP has been giving advertisements;

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(b) the total allocation of advertisements to the Urdu newspapers and magazines during the year 2001-2002; and

(c) the percentage of advertisements of total allocation issued to Urdu journals by DAVP during the year 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The number of Urdu daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and magazines to which the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) issued advertisements during the year 2001-2002 was 86, 39 and 8, respectively. The Ministries/Departments inclusive of autonomous bodies and public sector undertakings issued advertisements through DAVP, during the year 2001-2002 covering 8360524 column centimeter space, out of which the share of Urdu newspapers was 494844 column centimeter space, which amounted to 5.92% of the total.

Task force on street vendors

*179. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any task force to look into the problems of street vendors in the country in order to regulate their activities and also improve their working conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a policy in this regard is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Task Force have submitted the drafts National Policy on street vendors to the Government and the same is being examined.

Market rating of HUDCO Bonds

*180. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the market rating agencies have downgraded the HUDCO