

Pending Cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

94. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the Government of India are a party, pending in the Supreme Court and in various High Courts, Court-wise; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken to ensure expeditious disposal of these pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Office Building Complex in Madras Steel Stockyard

95. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large office building complex has been constructed in the Madras steel stockyard of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) at Santanagadu;

(b) if so, the total cost of construction and name of the authority which approved the construction;

(c) whether the constructed floor space of the above complex is fully utilised; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof along with the financial loss per annum due to non-utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SEN): (a) SAIL has constructed an office building having a floor

area of about 900 sq. metres, within its stockyard at Santanagadu in Madras.

(b) About Rs. 34 Lakhs. The construction was approved by the competent authority who in this case is the Deputy General Manager, Special Projects Division of SAIL.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

[*Translation*]

Mining Work in Forests of Kodarma and Ganwa Tisri (Bihar)

96. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mining leases granted for mining mica and stone in Kodarma forests and in the valley and forests of Ganwa Tisri of Giridih, district;

(b) whether the mining work has been brought to a stop at the above places;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to allow the mining work to continue unabated on the condition that the lease holders would plant trees in an area equal to the land of limited mining leases; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against those persons who are responsible for destruction of hundreds of square kilometres of forest cover by illegal deforestation where no mining work is being undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) to (d). Detailed information has been called from the State Government and the