

*[English]***By-Pass in Goa**

4739. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in the commencement of construction work of by-pass road to National Highway No. 17 at VERNA Village in SALCETTE taluk of South Goa district, despite allocation of funds;

(b) whether the Government has approved any tender for construction of the said by-pass;

(c) whether land acquisition and other formalities have been duly completed; and

(d) the time-frame fixed by the Government for the completion of the said work?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The delay in commencement of construction work of Verna By pass to N.H-17 is due to tendering process.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is too early to give the completion date.

*[Translation]***Snake Bite Cases**

4740. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of people are victims of snake bite in rural areas of the country;

(b) whether the treatment of snake bite is not available in the Primary Health Centres;

(c) whether Government propose to make available urgent medical service to attend such cases in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Specific data on snake bite cases in rural areas is not available. As per records available with National Crime Records Bureau the number of accidental deaths due to snake bites in 1991, 1992 and 1993 were 4842, 4142 and 4768 respectively in the country.

(b) to (d) Snake bite treatment is available in the Primary Health Centres and the required medicine is

procured by the State Health Department as per need of the PHC. A referral system is also available in the rural areas to send such cases to the nearby Community Health Centre or the District Hospital for urgent treatment.

Reservation for OBC's in Sainik Schools

4741. SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation for SC/ST in the 'Sainik Schools' exists in the country, but no such provision has been made for the OBCs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government for providing reservation to the wards of OBCs alongwith SCs/STs in Sainik Schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): Reservation for SC/ST is provided as per the Constitutional provisions. So far no decision has been taken by the Government regarding reservation for OBCs in Educational Institutions.

Indira Gandhi Canal Project, Rajasthan

4742. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the Indira Gandhi Canal Project in Rajasthan is likely to be completed;

(b) the amount provided for this project as Central assistance;

(c) whether the Government propose to make special provisions for this project in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether the amount allocated by the Union Government is less than the amount fixed for this project in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether the construction of canals in the command areas of this project is likely to be completed by the targetted year 2005; and

(f) the progress made regarding assistance from the international institutions so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) According to Government of Rajasthan the project is likely to be completed by the year 2005.

(b) The Central assistance to be provided upto the end of VIII Plan is Rs. 460.61 Crores.