

### Nuclear Programme

2773. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether dissolution of USSR is affecting our on-going Atomic Energy Projects and Programmes:

(b) whether the outcome of Geneva talks on CTBT shall have any adverse impact on our on-going nuclear programmes for peaceful purposes: and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### Jalep La Trade Route to China

2774. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the State Government of West Bengal for considering the opening of Jalep La Pass/route via Kalimpong for promoting the Trade-relation between India and China:

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps in this regard:

(c) if so, the details thereof: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). The Government of West Bengal have, in the past, pointed out the possibility of using either Nathu La or Jalep La as border trade route between India and China. Both Jalep La and Nathu La are in close proximity to each other. The issue of opening Nathu La as trade route is under discussion with the Chinese side.

### Judgement on social Evil of Dowry

2775. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a recent judgement wherein the Supreme Court has called in a movement to check the social evil of dowry; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is in agreement with the judgement of the Supreme Court of India delivered

on 11th July, 1996 (Criminal Appeal No.231 of 1994) that there is need for awakening of the collective consciousness, for a change of heart and attitudes and for a wider social movement not only of educating women of their rights but also of the men folk to respect and recognise the basic human values needed to bury the pernicious social evil of dowry.

### Malaria Control Scheme

2776. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a seminar on Central assistance to be given under Malaria control scheme was held recently and it was decided that 70% of the expenditure would be borne by the Union Government:

(b) if so, whether the above decision has been implemented:

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be implemented: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) In the meeting of the Central Council for Health & Family Welfare held during October, 1995, a resolution was passed that the present budget allocation for National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) needs to be increased and the Central State Share ratio to be revised to 70:30, keeping in view the malaria situation and the problems faced by the States in providing their sharing 50% under the National Malaria Eradication Programme.

(b) to (d). The implementation of this recommendation would depend, inter alia, on augmentation of budget outlays for Malaria in future, and, appropriate policy decisions at various levels.

[Translation]

### Publication of Gujarati/Hindi Books

2777. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial assistance has been provided to Gujarat for the publication of Gujarati/Hindi books during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the development of Gujarati and Hindi in this State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). A grant of Rs.2,73,736/- has been paid in

two instalments to Gujarat Vishwakosh Trust, Ahmedabad for the publication of Gujarati Vishwakosh (Vols. V & VI) in Gujarati language during the financial years 1993-94 and 1995-96 under the scheme of financial assistance for publication and purchase of books in Indian languages and in English.

(c) The Government have formulated the following schemes including schemes to maintain autonomous bodies/subordinate offices under the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the purpose of development of Hindi & other Indian languages including Gujarati :-

- (i) Financial assistance to voluntary organisation for promotion of Hindi.
- (ii) Appointment and Training of Hindi teachers in Non-Hindi speaking States/UTs.
- (iii) Financial assistance for publication/purchase of books in Indian languages and in English.
- (iv) Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for selected promotional activities relating to Indian languages (other than Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu and Sindhi).
- (v) Scheme of production of University level books in Hindi and in regional languages.
- (vi) Appointment and Training of Modern Indian Language teachers in Hindi speaking States/UTs.
- (vii) Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi, a subordinate office is engaged in the development of Hindi as link language though correspondence courses and production of bi-lingual and trilingual dictionaries etc.
- (viii) Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, New Delhi, a subordinate office is engaged in the evolution of Scientific and technical terminology in Hindi and regional languages.
- (ix) Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra, an autonomous organisation is engaged in importing teacher's training for in-service teachers in non-Hindi speaking States/UTs etc.
- (x) Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, a subordinate office is engaged in developmental programmes for Indian languages.
- (xi) The National Book Trust, India, an autonomous organisation is stepping up its publication programme in Gujarati and Hindi for the development of these languages in Gujarat.

[English]

### Bye-Passes in Kerala

2778. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several proposals for bye-passes are pending in connection with National Highway No. 49 from Cochin to Madurai in Cochin-Neridmangalam sector, give details thereof;

(b) the stage of fixation of alignment of this highway in the sector running through Kerala;

(c) the cause of delay in finalising alignment and undertaking works of bye-passes; and

(d) the developments planned in the above sector?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The alignment proposal of the National Highway-49 in Kerala is yet to be submitted by the State P.W.D.

(c) The delay in finalisation of alignment is mainly due to hilly terrains.

(d) The development of NH-49 in Kerala would be considered after finalisation of the alignment.

[Translation]

### Passport offices in Delhi

2779. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of existing passport offices in the National Capital Region of Delhi;

(b) the number of passports issued by these offices during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the average time taken by these offices in issuing passports;

(d) the number of applications pending for passports in these offices for more than six months; and

(e) the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to dispose of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) At present, there is one Passport Office in the National Capital Region of Delhi viz. Regional Passport Office, Delhi. Two more are in the process of being established, respectively in Ghaziabad and Gurgaon.

(b) The number of passports issued by RPO, Delhi during the last three years is as follows :

Year	1993	1994	1995
No. of Passports Issued	128186	108249	106607