

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 came into force w.e.f. 4th Feb. 1995 in all the Union Territories and the States of Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Government of West Bengal have also adopted this act. There are sufficient provisions in the Act for punishment of persons dealing unlawfully in Human Organs. The main objective of the Act is to regulate the removal, storage and Transplantation of Human Organs for therapeutic purposes and for the prevention of commercial dealing in the Human Organs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. As the Act is applicable in the State of Maharashtra and West Bengal, those States are competent to take necessary action against the guilty persons.

Preservation and Promotion of Tribal Culture

2898. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the rapid industrialisation in the tribal belt, there is influx of non-tribes which is creating threat to age old rich Tribal Culture;

(b) whether the Government have issued any guidelines or instructions to the Public and Private sectors towards Preservation and Promotion of Tribal Culture;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken by the owners/managers of these industries including all Steel Plants in the areas regarding safeguarding of Tribal culture; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) Threat to age old rich tribal culture comes from different sources. Therefore Govt. of India in the Department of culture have launched a scheme of Financial Assistance for promotion and dissemination of Tribal/folk Art and Culture under which Govt. gives grants to the Voluntary Organisations Institutions/Individuals who are engaged in the field of preservation and promotion of Tribal Culture. In addition Govt. in the Ministry of Welfare has given grant on 50:50 basis to Tribal Research Institutes in the States of A.P., Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, M.P., Orissa, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Manipur to establish Museums or promotion and preservation of Tribal Culture.

(b) As per information available, Govt. have not issued any instructions to the Public and Private Sector

industries towards preservation and promotion of Tribal Culture. However, the working Group on Development and Welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the Ministry of Welfare during 8th Five Year Plan had recommended a number of steps for promotion and development of Tribal Culture.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Bridge on N.H.-8A

2899. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact Surajbari bridge on NH-8A (Ahmedabad to Kandla) connecting Saurashtra and Kutch on little Rann of Kutch is in a dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs.60.54 lakhs has been sanctioned, since 1989, for undertaking repair works of the bridge project in question in the Gujarat State. Further for the construction of a new bridge, survey and investigation works are now in progress.

[Translation]

Inter-State Projects

2900. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inter-State projects being monitored by the Union Government;

(b) whether Bansagar, Bhandar Canal, Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam, Tones lift Scheme and Kanhar Inter-State Projects are also being monitored by the Union Government;

(c) the date when each of these projects was cleared and the time period fixed for the completion of each of these projects;

(d) the economic and physical achievements of the above projects upto 31st March, 1996; and

(e) whether the Government propose to complete these projects at an early date by formulating phased programme and by providing necessary funds?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) In all, 14 Inter-State Irrigation Projects are being monitored by the Central Water Commission, an attached office of the Ministry of Water Resources.

(b) Out of five Projects name in the Question, only two Projects Bansagar and Mahi Bajaj Sagar are being monitored by Central Water Commission. Bhandar Canal Project has already been completed.