

Black Spots on Khajuraho Temples

1542. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the sculptures on the South and North sides of the Lakshmana and Khanderia (Khajuraho) temples have turned black due to the action of excessive rains on the sandstone ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard ; and

(c) the reaction of Government to preserve them with care ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Superficial black spots have been noticed on the northern and southern sides of Khanderia and Lakshmana temples of Khajuraho due to stagnation and absorption of rain water.

(b) These spots occur mostly in the crevices and recesses behind the sculptures.

(c) As the black spots are superficial, they are removed by chemical cleaning and thereafter preserved with reversible surface coat.

Air Service from Hyderabad to Nagarjuna Sagar

1543. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce Air Service from Hyderabad to Nagarjunasagar in Andhra Pradesh which is a place of attraction to tourists and technicians in general and Buddhists in particular ;

(b) if so, the likely date by which the Air Service will come into operation ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present.

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

State Universities not Following U.G.C. Guidelines

1544. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that many of the universities started by the State Governments do not follow the guidelines of the University Grants Commission and so the standard of education is coming down ; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal that prior to the establishment of the universities, State Governments should get the approval of the University Grants Commission and that the University Grants Commission should be satisfied with the arrangement and regulation of the Universities ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) According to Section 12-B of the U.G.C. Act, any new university established after June 17, 1972 is eligible for financial assistance from the Commission only after it is declared fit to receive such assistance from the U.G.C. Only those universities which fulfil the conditions prescribed in the rules framed under Section 12-B of the U.G.C. Act are declared fit by the Commission for assistance. 13 universities which have been established in the recent past and which do not yet fulfil these conditions to be declared fit for assistance by the U.G.C.

(b) There is no proposal presently under consideration under which State Govts. should seek the prior approval

of the U.G.C. for establishment of new universities. However, in the case of new universities, the Commission satisfies itself, among others, about the scale of facilities provided by them and the provisions made in their Acts and Statutes, before they are declared fit for assistance.

[Translation]

Over-bridges on Railway crossings in Bikaner City

1545. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are five railway level crossings in Bikaner City;

(b) whether Railway administration had taken a decision in the Joint meeting held with officials of Rajasthan Government that overbridges should be constructed at only two railway crossings out of these 5 railway crossings and one of which will be on Rani Bazar road and second on Gajner road but preference has been given to Rani Bazar road,

(c) whether the railway administration has received the sanction for the Rajasthan Government's share of expenditure for the construction of over bridges at Rani Bazar and Gajner road and if not, the time by which the same is anticipated; and

(d) When will the work on Rani Bazar road overbridge start ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir,

(c) No, Sir. The Government of Rajasthan have not yet sent a proposal for the two road-over bridges to the Railways.

(d) The date of taking up of the work will depend on finalisation of technical details of the proposal by the State

Government and the Railways and on the State Government agreeing to bear their share of the cost and completing other formalities.

[English]

Providing Air Conditioned Coach in Jayanti Janata Express for Cochin Section

1546. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether air-conditioned coaches have been provided in the Jayanti Express running between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Cochin;

(b) whether an air-conditioned coach is provided for the Mangalore section of this train; and

(c) if so, when this facility is proposed to be provided in the Cochin section ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Due to no room being available on 131/132 Jayanti Janata Express to haul an additional coach, it will not be feasible to run an A.C. 2-tier Sleeper coach between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Cochin at present,

Funds and Facilities for Expanding Education in Southern States

1547. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Education Ministers of the Southern States have recently protested to Government about raw deal in the matter of funds and facilities for expanding education in their respective States;

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto;