

asked to ensure that violations of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 do not take place. Further cases involving violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 are decided in accordance with the guidelines issued for implementation of the Act.

#### FOOT OVER-BRIDGE

7741 **Shri Ram Naik** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Mira-Bhayander Municipality in Maharashtra have paid Rs 75 lakhs to the Western Railway for construction of foot over-bridge between Bhayander East and Bhayander West

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Western Railway have started the construction of the bridge,

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) if not the reasons therefor and

(f) whether any time bound scheme has been chalked out by the Government to complete the work?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)**

(a) and (b) The Municipality has deposited Rs 30.41 lakhs only out of a total estimated cost of Rs 45 lakhs approx

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The detailed estimate for the work is under preparation in consultation with Municipality. The work will be taken up for execution after finalisation of tenders on deposits of full cost by the Municipality.

(f) The work is expected to be completed by Dec 1996.

#### EDUCATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

7742 **Shri Dwaraka Nath Das** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a school for Handicapped Children in Assam (Barak Valley),

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja)** : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) The State Government of Assam has recently

conducted a survey of the physically handicapped population for assessing their requirements.

[Translation]

#### WORLD BANK AIDED FORESTRY PROJECT

7743 **Shri N.J. Rathva** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether any forestry project with the World Bank aid is being launched in Gujarat,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the World Bank has approved it

(d) the number of people including Tribals and other backward people likely to be benefited by the Project and

(e) the amount spent on this Project so far?

**The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath)** : (a) and (c) A forestry development project received from the Government of Gujarat was posed to World Bank which was not approved by them.

(b) to (e) Do not arise

[English]

#### GAUGE CONVERSION

7744 **Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Hubli-Vasco Broad Gauge Conversion Project is languishing far behind the original time schedule,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) the details of the progress made so far and the revised time schedule for completion of the Project and restoration of rail traffic, and

(d) the details regarding cost escalation of the Project and the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)**

(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) (i) Gauge conversion of Hubli-Londa section has been completed on 31.3.95

(ii) Work of conversion of Londa-Castle Rock is targeted for completion by 30.6.95

(iii) Work of conversion of Castle Rock-Vasco section is scheduled for completion by 31.12.95

(d) The anticipated cost of entire Hospet-Hubli-Goa project during 1992-93, when the work was taken up for implementation was Rs 312 crores, which has now gone up to approximately Rs 378 crores

The increase in cost is due to price escalation

[Translation]

### FLORA AND FAUNA

7745 **Shri Sushil Chandra Varma** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) The total number of species of flora and fauna in the country as per the survey conducted in this regard

(b) the names of flora and fauna which have become extinct during the last three years

(c) the names of flora and fauna which are on the verge of extinction and

(d) the scheme formulated by the Government to ensure that the flora and fauna in the country do not become extinct?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) The Botanical Survey of India & Zoological Survey of India have estimated the number of flora and fauna species in the country as follows

|       |   |       |
|-------|---|-------|
| Flora | — | 45000 |
| Fauna | — | 77450 |

(b) No reports are available of the extinction of any species during the last three years

(c) The name of flora and fauna which are under various degrees of threat are available in the following publications

- (i) "Red Data Book of Indian Plants" Vol 1 (1987) Vol II (1988) & Vol III (1990)—published by the Botanical Survey of India
- (ii) The Red Data Book on Indian Animals' (1994)—published by the Zoological Survey of India

(d) In situ and ex situ conservation of species of flora and fauna are done through a protected area network of National Parks and Sanctuaries biosphere reserves, botanical gardens and zoological parks

[English]

### RATION CARDS

7746 **Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi** : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have directed different States to expedite enumeration of Ration Cards,

(b) if so, the steps taken by different States as on date;

(c) whether some State have introduced Door Steps Delivery System, and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) and (b) All operational aspects of distribution of commodities to consumers through the Public Distribution System (PDS), including the verification and issue of ration cards to consumers, are within the administrative jurisdiction of the State Government/UT Administration Central Government has from time to time, been advising the States/UTs to take up verification of ration cards already issued for weeding out bogus cards States/UTs were also advised to ensure of ration cards to all households living in areas covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) State/UTs have reported that since 19 1991 and till 15 5 1995, a total number of 37 32 lakhs additional ration cards have been issued in the RPDS areas The States/UTs implementing the RPDS, have reported that more than 11 57 million bogus ration cards have been weeded out during the same period

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) As a component of the RPDS scheme States/UTs had agreed to introduce door step delivery of PDS commodities to the Fair Price Shops (FPS) As per reports received from States/UTs, till 15 5 1995, around 54000 FPSs out nearly 1 02 lakh FPSs in the RPDS areas are covered under door step delivery

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

7747 **Shri P. Kumarasamy** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) the details of the projects for conservation of Environment and Forests started in Tamilnadu with assistance from Union Government and also from foreign institutions during 1993-94 and 1994-95,

(b) the amount of assistance provided by the Union Government and Foreign Institutions, separately, for each of these projects, and

(c) the propose made in each case ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (c) The details of the projects for conservation of Environment and Forests started in Tamil Nadu with central and foreign assistance during the last two years along with achievements both financial and physical are given in the Statement attached