

(a) the package plan announced by Prime Minister to solve the problem of Kashmir;

(b) whether the said package plan would be applicable even when the elections in Kashmir have been cancelled by the Election Commission;

(c) whether the package was not acceptable to the parties at the National and State level;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to improve the political package to bring it into line with its commitment to autonomy for the State;

(e) whether the Government are considering to withdraw the package plan; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b). A Statement was made by the Prime Minister on 4th November, 1995 urging upon the people of Jammu and Kashmir to take a determined stand against terrorists and to help in restoring complete peace and bring about their own representative Government. The commitment of the Government to maintain the special status of the State under Article 370 had been reiterated and it has been stated that it shall be the endeavour of the Government to strengthen, within the Constitution, the autonomy of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, keeping in view the aspirations of the people belonging to all the three regions of the State. The commitment of the Government to the fullest implementation of the Agreement reached in 1975 was reiterated along with a further statement that the Government would have no objection to the restoration of the nomenclature of "Wazir-e-Azam" and "Sadar-e-Riyasat", if the State Legislature were to take action for amending the State Constitution for the purpose. The emphasis and focussed attention given by the Government on issues of development in the State, the need for time bound revival of the State's economy and the commitment of the Government to formulate further financial and development benefits for the State were also brought out in the Statement.

(c) and (f). There have been diverse reactions, among various sections of the people, political groups and in the media to the Statement referred to above. The Government have continued to maintain that it is open to dialogue and discussions with various individuals and groups with the aim of building up an environment, and further consolidating the improved situation in the State, so that peace and normalcy

can be restored and a democratic and representative Government brought about through free and fair elections at the earliest. Such dialogue and discussions could also include issues pertaining to the question of autonomy as already mentioned in the Statement of the Prime Minister. The Government shall continue to follow this approach and pursue its efforts towards achieving the above objective and there shall be no let-up in our efforts in this regard.

[English]

Urban Planning and Design

533. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have instituted two national cash prizes for excellence in Urban Planning and Design; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R.K. DHAWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

With the approval of the Prime Minister the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment has decided to institute the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Urban Planning and Design for the following two categories :

(a) Implemented Urban Planning and Design projects signifying built environment of an exceptional quality.

(b) Innovative ideas/concepts and plans in Urban Planning and design, where the projects are still in the pipeline or at implementation stage.

The awards are open to all Indian Architects, Town Planners and allied professionals, their firms and Government, Public and Private Sector institutions/Organisations who have planned/implemented projects anywhere in India.

Prizes

It is proposed to award two prizes on a biennial basis in each of the above mentioned categories, commencing from 1995-96. The first and second prizes under each category will

be for the best and the next best projects signifying built environment of an exceptional quality and innovative ideas/concepts and plans including detailed designs/drawings and 3-D models in the field of Urban Planning and Design.

The first prize under each category will carry a cash award for Rs. 5.00 lakhs (Rupees Five Lakhs) including a citation, and the second prize will carry a cash award of Rs. 2.50 lakhs (Rupees Two Lakhs and Fifty thousand) including a citation.

Entry Requirements

The geographical area to be covered by the scheme for either of the two awards shall be at least 100 hectares (one hundred hectares) in each case. However, schemes covering not less than 75 hectares (Seventy Five hectares) may also be considered at the discretion of the Approval Committee. Submission of entries in respect of implemented projects shall be governed by the completion certificate of the competent authority within the last five years. In respect of entries for the scheme of awards for innovative ideas and plans, these should not be older than two years prior to the date of submission.

Criteria for Grant of Awards

For the entries to be eligible for being considered for the grant of awards, they should fulfil as many of the following criteria as possible :

- (i) Overall functionality of the town/selected locality or area for the purpose in view.
- (ii) Aesthetics and environmental quality of the built-environment.
- (iii) Environmental sustainability.
- (iv) Cost effectiveness of urban planning and design, including circulation patterns.
- (v) Equity for the poorer sections.

Only those entries which are adjudged the best and the next best in accordance with the procedure laid down shall be eligible for the grant of the awards under the two categories.

The decision of the Approval Committee, subject to the approval of the Union Minister for Urban Affairs and Employment (Department of Urban Development) and the Prime Minister shall be final.

[Translation]

Doubling of Railway Line

534. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to lay double Railway Line between Muradnagar and Meerut;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to start; and

(d) the estimated cost to be incurred on the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (d). Doubling between Muradnagar and Meerut City (30 kms.) has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 31 crores with an outlay of Rs. 5 crores for 1995-96. The work on this line is proposed to be taken up very shortly under BOLT Scheme. The target date for completion of this work is 1997-98.

[English]

Bangalore-Ahmedabad Express

535. SHRIMATI CHANDRAPRABHA URS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received from the people of Hubli to run Bangalore-Ahmedabad Express train via Hubli; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

[Translation]

Polio Vaccines

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

(a) whether there is acute shortage of oral polio vaccines in the country;