

Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) has undertaken R and D of value for the design, construction and maintenance of road and runway pavements; beneficiation of local materials for road construction, transportation planning; traffic engineering; bridges and structures; landslides and development of equipment and instrumentation. CRRI has been advising and assisting diverse agencies and organisations on finding solutions of road related problems. Over the period 1956 to 1985 it has rendered around 650 consultations to user organisations. Its contributions to desing construction of rural roads and border roads using locally available materials are of significance.

(b) CRRI has been carrying out R and D for improving the performance of bullock carts. The R and D included measurement of tractive effort for different type of wheels and tracks, pavement design for bullock cart traffic and development of flexible element for incorporation in the hubs of the cart. It had prepared 20 prototype bullock carts of improved design for trying out the innovative features. These prototype carts were distributed to farmers in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan for user trials. The final report on these improved designs bullock carts has been recently submitted to the Department of Rural Development for dissemination to State Government/Agencies. As regards these designs five organisations, two in Uttar Pradesh, one each in Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar have obtained drawings of these improved design bullock carts. The Tamil Nadu organisation has sold ten such bullock carts upto April, 1984. The organisation in Madhya Pradesh has fabricated six such bullock carts for display as Models in their divisional offices.

(c) CRRI has been working on traffic related problems since its inception. There are over 40 scientific and technical staff working in the areas of traffic and transportation engineering. It has facilities for road studies, traffic studies and driver studies, CRRI has made contributions in the areas of transportation planning for large cities and metropolitan areas; economic evaluation of transport infrastructure; development of measures and devices for regulation and control of traffic, area traffic management, parking

standards, analyses of accident-prone spots, driver evaluation and road user behaviour.

(d) No, Sir. The accident rates have decreased in terms of per unit of population and per unit of motor vehicles in Delhi. The number of accidents per 10,000 motor vehicles reduced from 196 in 1973 to 76 in 1983. Studies and surveys carried out by CRRI on the traffic problems in Delhi, have helped to devise solutions to ease these problems.

Protection of forest wealth

2408. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has recently got an assurance from an international team for assistance for protection of the forest wealth;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions given and objectives set by this team;

(c) whether any team has recently visited India as per the report prepared by the World Resources Institute, Washington; and

(d) if so, the details of the report in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Terms of reference of Mathew Commission

2409. SHRI M.S. GILL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether in view of the public statement of the Prime Minister admitting that the ground of 'other consideration', in the terms of reference of Mathew Commission was unintentional and unfortunate mistake on the part of Government, it is proposed to amend

the terms of reference so as to exclude "other consideration" from the terms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : There is no such proposal at present.

Proposal to hand over Rajasthan-Pakistan border area to Army

2410. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Rajasthan-Pakistan border areas is too large to be effectively manned by the Border Security Force;

(b) whether in view of large scale infiltration of terrorists, Government are thinking of handing over this area to Army;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard to achieve optimum efficiency to check the designs of terrorists; and

(d) whether Government have identified other areas along the border which are vulnerable and if so, Government's plans to seal such areas, as well ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government have no reports of large scale infiltration of terrorists and there is no proposal at present to hand over the Rajasthan border area to the Army.

(c) Constant vigilance is maintained by the BSF on the border. Joint ambushes, raids and patrols with the local Police and other preventive agencies are organized by the BSF. Additional coys of BSF have been deployed on Rajasthan border. Observation towers have been erected to watch movements of infiltrators. Border Wing Home Guards have been deployed to augment the strength of border out posts.

(d) Necessary measures have been taken by Government for adequate security of the border. Anti-infiltration measures, strengthening of BSF battalions and other security measures for safeguarding the borders are reviewed by the Government from time to time.

Testing of anti-satellite weapon in space

2411. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of USA's testing of an anti-satellite weapon (Asat) in space recently;

(b) whether Government consider that this experiment by USA is likely to escalate arms race in space; and

(c) if so, reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of India is opposed to the introduction of any weapon system in space and to the extension of the arms race into Outer Space. This position of the Government of India has been put forward forcefully at various multilateral forums, such as the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva and the UN General Assembly, as well as in bilateral discussions.

News item captioned "Heroin trail exposes police connection"

2412. SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI :
PROF. RAMKISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item in the