

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) The progress of the project as intimated by the Government of West Bengal is as under :

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| (i) Calcutta Side Approach (Section I) | — 74% |
| (ii) Howrah Side Approach (Section II) | — 36% |
| (iii) Main Bridge (Section III) | — 49% |

There are some slippages in the construction of the bridge work.

(b) to (g) One of the construction companies doing the construction of superstructure of the main bridge imported 12000 tonnes of steel from Rumania for fabrication of which a small portion is reported to be defective. The company is taking up the matter of defective steel. The shortage of steel is being met from indigenous sources, supplemented by imports. The Government of West Bengal are primarily concerned with the project.

Railway High and Higher Secondary Schools at Kharagpur (SE Rly)

710. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) how many Railway High and Higher Secondary Schools are there at Kharagpur in the S.E. Railway ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railway schools at various states follow education system of the States in which they are located ;

(c) whether an officer of the Education Department of West Bengal Government had visited the Railway schools at Kharagpur and had drawn the attention of the administration towards some drawbacks in those schools ;

(d) if so, what are they ; and

(e) What steps have Government taken to make up the deficiencies so that proper education be imparted to the students of Railway schools.

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) There are 3 Higher Secondary Schools and 1 High Schools.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) District Inspector of Schools Midnapur has recommended for increase in number of teachers in Railway schools, creation of the posts of Assistant Headmaster and improvement in the material conditions prevailing in the schools in respect of classrooms, library, laboratories for Physics, Chemistry and Biology, sanitary facilities, play fields etc.

(e) Matter is under examination.

[Translation]

Night Air Services at Patna Airport

711. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to start night air service at Patna airport ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also fact that expansion of Patna airport is in progress ; and

(d) if so, the time by which it will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The work for extension of the Apron at Patna airport has started and is likely to be completed by July, 1986.

Assistance for use of Ground Water in South Region of Ganga in Bihar

712. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that ground water is the means of irrigation in the region South of the Ganga in Bihar ; and

(b) if so, the assistance being given by the Union Government to the Government of Bihar for making full use of this ground water for providing maximum irrigation facility in this region ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Groundwater is one of the sources of irrigation in the region south of Ganga in Bihar besides a number of major and medium irrigation projects also.

(b) The Government of India is rendering assistance to the Government of Bihar through the Central Ground Water Board for undertaking surveys and exploration of groundwater resources. In addition, a project for comprehensive evaluation of groundwater resources in Chhota Nagpur area falling in Kasai and Subarnarekha River Basins has been taken up by the Central Ground Water Board with assistance from UNDP under which detailed plans for exploitation of groundwater resource in this area would be prepared. Further, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the strengthening of State Ground Water and Surface Water Minor Irrigation organisations, Central assistance of Rs. 27.19 lakhs as 50% matching grant was released to the State during the Sixth Plan. This scheme is proposed to be continued during the Seventh Plan. The Central Government is also assisting the Bihar Government in obtaining World Bank assistance for construction of 500 deep tubewells and repairs and rehabilitation of 4,712 existing deep tubewells.

[English]

Mehrotra Committee on Pay Scales of College and University Teachers

713. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mehrotra Committee appointed by the University Grants Commission to look into the pay scales of college and University teachers has since submitted any report ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations contained in the Report and the decisions taken by Government thereon ;

(c) the date on which the Committee was set up and the date by which it was to submit its report ; and

(d) if the report has not been submitted, the reasons for delay and the likely date by which it will be submitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee was appointed in December 1983, and was expected to submit its report by August, 1984.

(d) The Committee has initiated discussions with representatives of teachers, State Governments, Vice-Chancellors, educationists, etc. Sub-Committees had visited various State Capitals for this purpose. The arrangement of these discussions had taken some time. Further, the committee was also to take into account the recommendations of the National Commission on Teachers which were available only in March, 1985. The Committee now expects to submit its report by March, 1986.

Central Schools in the Country

714. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places, state-wise at which the Central Schools were sanctioned during the current financial year (1985-86) ; and

(b) the names of such places where the schools have since been opened and the likely dates by which the remaining schools would be opened in each case and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.