

Allocation for Drive Against Tobacco

2961. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the funds allocated for launching publicity drive against all forms of tobacco use for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): No specific allocation of funds has been made during the 7th Five Year Plan for launching publicity drive against the use of all forms of tobacco products. However, with a view to creating public awareness on the health hazard of tobacco, a comprehensive health education campaign has been undertaken through cinema slides, mass media and pamphlets. Government of India had earlier produced a documentary film highlighting the hazards of smoking and chewing of tobacco and their relationship with Oral Cancer.

[Translation]

Repair of National Highways Damaged by Floods in Bihar

2962. SHRI R.S. KHIRHAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways damaged by floods in Bihar are proposed to be repaired urgently;

(b) if so, by what time and the total amount allotted so far; and

(c) whether Government propose to undertake repair work of the National Highway from Muzaffarpur to Sitamari in the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Repairs of immediate nature are

expected to be completed within this financial year. Permanent remedial measures are likely to be completed within 3 years subject to availability to resources. An allotment of Rs. 647.58 lakhs has so far been made to Bihar Government for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways during 1987-88.

(c) Muzaffarpur to Sitamari is not a National Highway. Responsibility for repairs to this road rests with the State Government.

[English]

Scaling of 'White Needle Peak' by Women Teams

2963. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some teams of Indian Women had scaled 'White Needle Peak';

(b) if so, the details of this expedition;

(c) whether the Indian Mountaineering Federation proposes to draw some more programme to encourage large number of women in the country to participate in these expeditions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from Indian Mountaineering Foundation, a team led by Kumari Nasim Akhtar, General Secretary, Adventurous Forum of Youth, Guwahati scaled 'White Needle Peak' (6500 m) in Kashmir Himalaya during September, 1987. The team consisted of 10 women, 2 male instructors, one doctor, 4 helping members and one television camera member.