

World Bank Report on Female-Male Ratio

3856. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank had expressed concern over the declining female-male ratio in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; including the top worries highlighted therein;

(c) whether the World Bank Report has been examined by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government; and

(e) the suggestions, which are proposed to be implemented by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Bank Report titled "Improving Women's Health in India" inter-alia, mentions that:

(i) India is one of the countries where males significantly out-number females; (ii) the sex ratio of the population has become increasingly weighted toward men; (iii) higher incidence of female mortality and morbidity rates; and (iv) the spreading practice of sex-selective abortion has an additional (although currently low) impact on the already female deficient sex-ratio.

(c) to (e). The Government has noted the contents of the report. Various Programmes of action and advocacy are being implemented by the Government in the country for the welfare and development of women and Girl Child. Attempts are also being made to project positive images of girl child so as to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards them. The Government has also initiated a media campaign to generate awareness on various issues relating to girl child. The National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade (1991-2000AD) for the girl child focussing on the survival, protection and development of the girl child has been formulated. A special set of interventions for adolescent girls has been institutionalised through the ICDS structure. Government has enacted the Pre-natal Diagnostic techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 which came into force with effect from 1-1-96 which provides that use of diagnostic techniques for the purpose of pre-natal sex determination leading to female foeticide is a legal offence.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Madhya Pradesh

3857. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Navodaya Vidyalayas opened in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh location-wise;

(b) whether buildings of each of these schools have been constructed;

(c) if not, the number of schools without building along with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which buildings for these schools are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) A Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya has been sanctioned in Mandla District during the year 1992-93.

(b) to (d). The construction work of the building for the Vidyalaya in Mandla district had to be stopped by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti as part of the land offered was withdrawn by the State Government. Construction work can be restarted only after suitability of the alternate land offered is ascertained and it is transferred to the Samiti by the State Government.

[English]

Sea Bird Naval Base

3858. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the foundation stone for "Sea Bird" naval base in Karnataka was laid;

(b) when the activities relating to first phase of "Sea Bird" naval base had commenced and the target date set for its completion;

(c) the estimated cost involved in the same;

(d) in how many phases, the entire proposed project will be taken up; and

(e) the details of taking up of different phases with estimated cost thereof and the time schedule for commencement of the activities, phase-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The foundation stone for 'Sea Bird' Naval Base in Karnataka was laid on 24 October, 1986.

(b) to (e). CCPA had approved in 1985 an expenditure of Rs. 350 crores at 1985 price level for the first ten years phase of a new Naval Base at Karwar. The Detailed Project Report for the Phase I of 'Sea Bird' Naval Base was completed in

1990. Based on Detailed Project Report a revised proposal for phase I of the Project with a completion cost of Rs. 1294.41 crore by the year 2005 was approved by Cabinet in October 1995. The activities relating to first phase of the Project have commenced in Nov. 95. The Project is to be completed in two phases. The cost estimates as well as date of completion of the second phase have not been worked out.

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission

3859. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission; and

(b) if so, the details including objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b). Consequent upon the announcement of Modified Drug Policy in September, 1994, the Government have initiated a proposal to set up a National Drug Authority in which the setting, up of an Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission for preparation and updating of the Indian Pharmacopoeia has been envisaged.

ISI Activities

3860. SHRI O.P. JINDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item published in 'Navbharat Times' dated July 20, 1996 under the caption "Kashmir mei ugravad ko badava dene ke liye I.S.I. ke teen wing";

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government proposed to hold any talks with the Government of Pakistan in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to check the activities of I.S.I. in India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistani agencies continue to support and promote terrorist activities directed against India.

(c) to (e). Government have and will take all measures to combat terrorist activities directed against India. Government have taken up the matter of Pakistan's support and promotion of terrorism with Pakistan on a number of occasions.

World Bank Report on Women Health

3861. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a World Bank Report on women's health released in India to June, 1996, cataloguing the variety of ways in which women are discriminated against; and

(b) if so, the steps Government contemplates to take to eliminate such discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps already initiated in this regard interalia include:

- a. National Policy for the Empowerment of Women has been formulated.
- b. National Commission for women has also been set up to safeguard the rights and legal entitlements of women.
- c. Govt. has been providing services to pregnant and lactating mothers through Mothers and Child Health programmes. Govt. is now proposing to launch comprehensive Reproductive and Child Health Project which aims at providing reproductive health services for both females and males including gender equality through IEC campaigns.
- d. The Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques Act has been passed which specifically prohibits sex determination of foetus.

[Translation]

Development of LCA

3862. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRI PINAKI MISRA:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first phase trial runs on a static test-bed of the indigenous Kaveri engine being made for the Light Combat Aircraft has been conducted;

(b) if so, the fate of the trial;