

under Government's consideration to approach Japan in connection with use of their technology regarding special steel and a tie-up with export of Indian iron ore.

Cleaning of River Ganga

503. DR. B.L.SHAILESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in cleaning the river Ganga at Allahabad and Varanasi and expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) whether Uttar Pradesh Government has formulated a "turtle conservation project" under the Ganga Action Plan to curb pollution; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines of the technical and financial assistance which Union Government propose to give to Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R.ANSARI): (a) Under the Ganga Action Plan, 19 schemes at a cost of Rs. 24.00 crores in Allahabad and 34 schemes at a cost of Rs. 45.77 crores in Varanasi respectively have been identified. Till 31st January 1988, 15 schemes in Allahabad and 29 schemes in Varanasi at a cost of Rs. 15.92 crores and Rs. 36.23 crores respectively have been sanctioned. Out of these, 4 schemes-3 at Varanasi and 1 at Allahabad - have already been completed.

Upto 31st January, 1988, an amount of Rs. 11.64 crores for Varanasi and Rs.5.23 crores for Allahabad have been made available to the implementing agencies for execution of the schemes. The works for interception and diversion of waste water will be completed before January, 1989 at Allahabad and during the Seventh Five Year

Plan at Varanasi.

(b) and (c). The U.P. Government had formulated a scheme for captive breeding of fresh water turtles and releasing them in these stretches of Ganga where their natural population has been depleted significantly in recent years due to human interference and other reasons. The objective of the scheme is to conserve this endangered species and maintain the ecological balance in the river. The scheme is being implemented by the Wildlife wing of the Forests Department of U.P. The Government of India has agreed to provide financial assistance for this scheme to the extent of Rs. 13.5 lakhs as non-recurring expenses and 50 of the recurring expenses during the 7th Plan under the Ganga Action Plan. The total financial assistance is likely to be of the order of Rs. 34.5 lakhs for this scheme. No technical assistance, however, is being provided to the U.P. Govt. for this scheme.

Fresh Guidelines for Eye Camps

504. CH. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued fresh guidelines for eye camps as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 29 December, 1987; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAJOJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The major recommendations of the Committee of State Health Ministers are given below:-

1. District Co-ordination Committee for control of blindness be set up where not yet formed. They shall plan, and coordinate eye

care services in the district.

2. The district Chief Medical Officer shall exercise technical supervision on all eye camps held in the district.
3. Special care shall be exercised with regard to the selection of the site of operation theater complex, Methodology of sterilisation and other measures to minimise the risk of infection in the camps.
4. Technical guidelines for the actual conduct of the eye camp and for the operations have been made more specific in order to minimise surgical complications.
5. All eye camps shall be organised with the help of local Eye Surgeons, from within the district of neighbouring districts of State, as far as possible. Necessary training be organised for the local aye specialist for this purpose.
6. Arrangements for referral to Government hospitals shall be made to take care of complicated cases.
7. A code of ethics has been prepared for the voluntary organisations for the conduct of eye camps. To ensure better quality services to the people orientation Workshops have been proposed for voluntary Organisations.
8. Constant supervision, evaluation and monitoring will be done to achieve better results.

The guidelines issued earlier under National Programme for Control of Blindness and recommendations of the Working group on Control of Blindness will remain operative with the above mentioned additions and alterations.

Residential Polytechnics for Women

505. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a National Expert Committee to finalise the details of setting up residential polytechnics for women during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference; and

(c) the location of these polytechnics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P.SHAHI) : (a) to (c). The Government have set up a National Expert Committee to examine the proposals received from the State Governments /Union Territories and make recommendations for establishing residential polytechnics for women including their location. The composition of the Committee is give below in the Statement.

STATEMENT

National Expert Committee for Examining the Proposals for Establishing Residential

Polytechnics for Women

COMPOSITION

1	2	3
1.	Dr. S.P.Luthra, New Delh'	Chairman