

pox occur throughout the country including Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) There are no known effective measures at present to control chicken pox.

National Blood Policy

6063. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been urged to Government that National Blood Policy should be evolved to make available healthy blood to patients in dire need;

(b) if so, whether it has become necessary to formulate this policy at the Centre's level;

(c) if so, whether the Central Government have agreed to formulate this policy; and

(d) if not, the main reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Healthy Blood is being made available to patients in dire need through the Blood Banks attached to Government Hospitals and the Blood Banks run by the Indian Red Cross Society and other voluntary organisations.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Coastal Development in Sunderban

6064. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what role his Ministry is likely to play in the coastal development which is a part of the Sunderban development project, which is assisted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development; and

(b) the extent of funds earmarked for this developmental programme out of the total funds given?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). The Sunderban Development Project involving setting up of blackishwater fish farms aided by International Fund for Agricultural Development is monitored by the Ministry of Agriculture. According to information furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture, no aspect of this project concerns us at present.

Railway Link for Konkan Area

6065. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that so far no Konkan area in Maharashtra is connected with railway to other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any proposals have been received from Maharashtra Government during all these years to connect Konkan with other parts of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details of proposals; when they were received and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) Non-availability of adequate resources.

(c) and (d). Maharashtra Government have been requesting for the construction of the Apta-Mangalore Railway Line. Construction of a new Broad Gauge Line (62 kms.) from Apta to Roha has been sanctioned and the work is in progress.