

(b) The request received from the State Government regarding handing over of surplus land of Kandla Port has not been accepted as the land is required for future development of the Kandla Port.

(c) The State Government of Gujarat has been making repeated requests and the request on which the decision was taken dates back to December, 1993.

(d) Does not arise.

F.M. Station

4781. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of F.M. Radio Stations in the country;

(b) whether F.M. facility is available anywhere in Bihar;

(c) the exact broadcasting range of an F.M. station; and

(d) the per-capita F.M. facility available in India in comparison to Japan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Presently 103 F.M. Transmitters are functioning in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. At present, 6 FM Radio Stations are functioning in the State of Bihar.

(c) The broadcasting range of an F.M. Transmitter depends upon power of transmitter, height of mast and terrain conditions. The range varies from 15 Km for 1 Kilowatt Transmitter with 30 meter antenna height to 52 Km for 10 KW Transmitter with 100 meter antenna height.

(d) The availability of radio signals is not measured in per capita terms, however, at present 23.86% population of the country is getting F.M. coverage. The figures relating to F.M. coverage in Japan are not available.

Pollution in Brahmani

4782. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has made any study to find out the water quality of the second biggest river of Orissa, the Brahmani considered as highly polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by both the Central Government and State Government to purify the water of Brahmani and its main tributary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board in collaboration with the Orissa State Pollution Control Board had conducted a study on the water quality of river Brahmani. It was found that the river Brahmani was polluted along Talchar, Dharmshala and Chandbali. Pollution abatement works have been approved in these towns under the National River Conservation Plan to tackle the pollution of river Brahmani due to domestic waste. The estimated cost of works is Rs. 1.28 crore. The works include interception & diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, low cost community toilets, improved wood crematoria and afforestation. The Govt. of Orissa has initiated action for preparing the detailed project reports. Industrial pollution is to be tackled through legislative measures.

Dowry Prohibition Act

4783. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 is ineffective to check dowry deaths reported in the country;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the National Commission for Women to check the dowry deaths; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Dowry Prohibition act is being reviewed and examined by the National Commission for Women. It has recommended transfer of the substantive provisions relating to the offences committed under Dowry Prohibition Act to the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act.

(c) Recommendations made by various agencies including National Commission for Women are kept in view while carrying out changes in the relevant laws.