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Uttar Pradesh			
44.	Forest land for Koteswar Dam.	December, 1988	State Govt. asked to submit consolidated proposal.
45.	Diversion for Maudha Dam.	June, 1994	Additional information is awaited.

Development of Kakinada Port

3403. SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Will be Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kakinada deep water port is in full operation to handle more than 5 million tonnes of cargo, in view of the all round development of the region;

(b) if so, the budgetary amount allocated for the financial year and the amount spent so far for the commissioning of deep water port at Kakinada; and

(c) the further developments envisaged for the development of Kakinada port to meet the potential demands of the Visakhapatnam-Kakinada corridor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Deep water port at Kakinada is designed to handle 3 million tonnes of cargo annually with the existing three shore connected berths. It is presently handling about 1 million tonne of cargo due to non-availability of mechanical equipment on the berths.

(b) No budget allocation is made for this year, since the deep water port is completed with the loan assistance of ADB and operation and management is offered for privatisation. Rs. 293 crores have been spend on the development of the Kakinada port.

(c) M/s. International Sea Ports Private Limited, Singapore has been selected for operation and maintenance of the existing 3 berths and also for construction of 4th berth at Kakinada.

[Translation]

Declaration of Road from Devas to Nemavar as N.H.

3404. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the road from Devas to Nemavar in Madhya Pradesh has not been accorded the status of National Highway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal could not be considered for declaration as National Highway due to interse priority of various other proposals and paucity of funds.

[English]

Speedy Disposal of Litigation

3405. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED : Will be Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure inexpensive and speedy disposal of litigations on the basis of the recommendation of the meeting of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The Chief Ministers' and Chief Justices' Conference, 1993 has made a number of recommendations for providing inexpensive and speedy disposal of cases. Government has taken a series of steps in this regard. This includes steps for amendment of Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code, increase in the number of posts of Judges in the High Courts, provision of a statutory base to Lok Adalats and vesting it with the powers of a civil court after the extension of provisions of Chapter III of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to all the States and Union Territories, appointment of Special Judicial/Metropolitan Magistrates and adoption of other alternative and locally appropriate methods of disputes resolution.

In addition to the above, the various High Courts have taken a number of steps for expeditious disposal of cases, viz; grouping and classification of cases involving similar question of law, setting up of specialised benches, computerization of records, etc. The High Courts have also issued instructions to their subordinate courts to reduce frequent adjournment of cases.

Commission for Administrative and Procedural Laws

3406. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any commission has been set up to review the administrative and procedural laws;

(b) if so, whether the Government had moved a Bill about three years back to amend the basic laws of evidence and criminal law but it lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to move the said Bill and made necessary amendments to bring it again before the Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The Government constituted a Commission on review of Administrative Laws on 8th May, 1998. The terms of reference of the Commission, inter-alia, include the review of administrative laws, regulations and procedures administered by different Central Ministries/ Departments and the follow up steps thereafter, for repeal and amendment.

(b) to (d) The Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 21, 1995 to amend the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and consequent amendments to the Indian Evidence Act. This Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

It has been decided to introduce the Bill afresh.

Tribunal Bench at Mumbai

3407. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Tribunal Bench at Mumbai under the National Environmental Tribunal Act; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The provisions of the National Environment Tribunal Act envisage the setting up of a National Environment Tribunal with its Principal Bench in New Delhi. The other Benches of the Tribunal will be set up in Chennai, Calcutta and Mumbai. This is being put into operation. The Act provides for strict liability for damages arising out of any accident occurring while handling any hazardous substance and for effective and expeditious disposal of cases arising from such accident, with a view to giving relief and compensation for damages to persons, property and the environment and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[Translation]

Development of Forests in Rajasthan

3408. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan have submitted any project for the development of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have approved the said project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken or propose to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (e) The proposals received from the Government of Rajasthan for the Ninth Plan period under the major afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and their status is given in Statement annexed.

Statement

Proposals Approved :

1. Schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests

Scheme/Project	Total Central Assistance Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	Central Assistance Released so far
1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme (IAEPS) :		
(i) Banswara district	340.57	103.84
(ii) Jhalawar district	373.45	108.88
(iii) Kota district	365.73	104.19
(iv) Tonk district	196.76	30.07
(v) Udaipur district	365.81	118.66
2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project for Rajasthan (on 50:50 sharing basis with State).	1610.63	517.96
3. Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants for Rajasthan.	540.45	162.11