Reservation for Handicapped in Port Trusts

3486. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 3% reservation made in promotions in Class III and IV posts under his Ministry for the physically handicapped employees has been implemented in Port Trusts:
- (b) if so, number of physically handicapped employees benefited thereunder since its introduction year-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken for its implementation; and
- (d) the number of posts in different categories reserved for physically handicapped lying vacant in all the Port Trusts in the Country ?

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

- (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.
- (c) Instructions of the Govt, have been re-iterated to the Port Trusts for implementation.
- (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Construction of Two Lane Track on NH-8

3487. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a bridge on River Mahi near Vasad on National Highway No. 8 in Gujarat connecting Khera with Baroda districts will have additional 500 meter long two-lane track;
- (b) whether an agreement has been signed between Government of Gujarat and Union Government for the construction of this track; and
- (c) if so the details thereof alongwith expected expenditure and time to be taken for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. An agreement for the execution of the project in question costing Rs. 42.00 crores on B.O.T. (Build-Operate-Transfer) basis has beer; signed on 16th November, 1998. The construction period is about 18 months.

Imparting of Sex Education

3488. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a detailed study has been conducted by intellectuals on the need to impart sex education at higher secondary level and in colleges;
 - (b) it so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to hold any such conference on the subject; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) A number of studies from 1970 onwards conducted by different research institutions and professional bodies have stressed the need to have sex education and population education as an integral part of adolescent education. A few of such studies have been documented by NCERT.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Government does not consider it necessary to hold any conference on the subject to consider only this issue.

Jhuggis in Shahjee Sarai

3489. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some people have constructed jhuggis in Shahjee Sarai, Begampur, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi which is a protected monument; and
- (b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for immediate removal of these jhuggis?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) There were already a large number of encroachments occupying the site when the monument was declared as centrally protected in 1988. They have since resisted attempts to evict them. In a few cases the encroachers have taken the matter to court and the cases are subjudice.

[Translation]

On Going Projects in UP/Haryana

3490. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the on going projects in Uttar Pradesh/ Haryana financed out of the Central Road Fund;
 - (b) the estimated cost thereof, project-wise;
 - (c) the amount released therefor; and
 - (d) the expenditure incurred thereon so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The details of the ongoing projects under Central Road Fund (CRF) alongwith the estimated costs for the State of U.P. and Haryana are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The allocation is not done on Project-wise basis. However, during the last three years a sum of Rs. 618.00 lakhs and Rs. 380.00 lakhs have been allocated to the State of U.P. and Haryana, respectively. The total expenditure incurred on the above Projects upto March, 1998 is Rs. 1145.61 lakhs in U.P. and Rs. 395.45 lakhs in Haryana, inclusive of State share.

Statement		
SI.		Sanctioned amount (Rs. in lakhs)
Nam	ne of State U.P.	
1.	Construction of Farukhabad bypass.	54.37
2.	Improvement of Azamgarh Varanasi road.	38.00
3.	Construction of Jiyanpur Anausi Walidpur Mohamdabad road.	78.30
4.	Widening & Strengthening/improve- ment of riding quality of existing roads in Amethi project.	1965.90
State	e of Haryana	
1.	Augmentation of laboratory facilities in laboratories in Haryana.	15.74
2.	Estimate for widening & strengthening of Panipat Safidon Jind-Bhiwani-Loharu road S.N. 14 (Sec. Safidon-Jind road KM 43 to 54 & KM 54.50 to 58 in Jind Distt.	d
3.	Traffic Engineering Cell in Haryana the period of 5 years.	for 50.00
4.	4 laning Yamuna nagar-Chhrauli road from Aggarsain chowk to Buria chow and Aggarsain chowk to Bilaspur chowk.	
5.	Strengthening of Agroha Adampur ro KM 0 to 16.77 in Hissar Distt.	ad 94.61
6.	4-laning of Ratia Budhlada Ratia Fetehabad city portion Ratia in Hissar Distt.	86.73

[English]

Ban on Tree Felling

3491. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have imposed a ban on the felling of trees in the Country;
 - (b) whether the ban has been violated in the several States;
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
 - (d) whether the persons arrested have been punished; and
- (e) if so, the nature of punishment granted/awarded to such persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) No, Sii. The forests are worked as per the prescriptions of the working plans approved by the Government. However, in specific areas the felling of trees is regulated by tree preservation Acts promulgated by some of the States.

(b) to (e) Illegal fellings of trees are dealt with by the State Governments under the relevant sections of the Indian Forest Act. 1927 and State Forest Acts and the offenders are punished by the State Government.

Award of Ph.D. Degree

3492. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the basis of awarding a Ph.D. degree;
- (b) whether there is a standard principle in this regard for all the Universities in India;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the candidates whose results get delayed are being penalised (in terms of increments, seniority, etc.) for no fault of theirs; and
- (e) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) Ph.D. Degree is awarded for the original research work. The date of completion of Ph.D. is normally the date of passing the viva-voce. However, the Degree is awarded when the convocation is held.