

MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Over Bridges on Railway Crossing on NH-4**

1785. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway No. 4 in Kamataka has any problem of railway crossings;

(b) if so, the problem places of such crossings on this highway right from Poona to Bangalore;

(c) the number of railway crossings without over bridges;

(d) whether the National Highway Authority propose to construct over bridges on these crossings during this year.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are two Railway level crossings without over bridges at Km. 310/800 (Hanumanhatti) and at Km. 328/400 (Nelagol).

(d) to (f) The National Highway Authority of India have sanctioned the consultancy estimate for detailed project preparation which is in progress.

[*Translation*]

#### **Operation Blackboard Programme**

1786. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the targets fixed under the Operation Blackboard programme have been achieved;

(b) if so, the names of the States where these have been achieved;

(c) the duration of the period for which the said programme was launched and the reasons to discontinue this scheme;

(d) whether there are no buildings matching with the standard of Operation Blackboard Programme in several high schools of Rajasthan;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the buildings would be made available?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The scheme of Operation Blackboard is being implemented in all States and UTs since 1987-88. It has contributed to conversion of about 1.50 lakh single teacher primary schools to dual teacher schools, construction of 1.77 lakh class rooms and provision of teaching learning material to 5.23 lakh primary schools. In 1993-94, the scheme was expanded to cover upper primary schools and to provide a third teacher for larger primary schools with enrolment exceeding 100 children. Under expanded Operation Blackboard, 55951 teachers have been provided to primary schools and teaching learning equipment has been provided to 95722 upper primary schools.

According to available information, the achievements under the scheme have been satisfactory in all States/UTs except Gujarat, Manipur, Maharashtra, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa.

(d) The Operation Blackboard Scheme has not been extended to high schools.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Research Group on Super Conductivity**

1787. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had set up a special research group on the "Super conductivity";

(b) if so, the current status of the group; and

(c) the achievements made by the nation so far in this field?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Under the National Superconductivity Programme initiated in 1987 an Apex Body and a Programme Management Board was established by the Central Government. The Programme Management Board promoted 63 projects during April 1988 to September, 1991. In February, 1991, the Apex Body and the