

- A urban railway system for commuters so that use of buses and two and three wheelers in central areas can be reduced;
  - Development of new habitat south/south-east of the Taj Mahal with incentives for movement of offices/residences, industry;
  - Restrictions on high rise buildings within 10 km. of the Taj Mahal so that decongestion could be effected;
  - General sensitisation of tourists and promoters of tourism to the need for restraint in energy usage in the vicinity of the Taj Mahal and other monuments;
  - Establishment of a greater Agra Development Authority to cover wider area and to effect several long term measures;
  - Establishment of air monitoring stations in Agra industrial areas and public display by electronic boards giving information on air quality;
  - Removal of all HSD usage in locomotives in Agra areas within 24 months. Possible conversion of diesel locomotives to electrical power ones;
  - Provision of increased funds, facilities, and special staff in Archaeological Survey of India to ensure complete conservation in Agra monuments;
  - Gradual decongestion of Taj Ganj and restrictions on use of solid fuels, solid waste;
  - Consider shifting of cremation ground at a further distance away from the Taj Mahal;
  - Restriction on opening of new petrol pumps or LPG distribution in the vicinity of monuments to avoid fire or explosion;
  - Publication of Annual Report on atmospheric quality and on the state of monuments (with suitable suggestions for improvements) by a duly constituted high level authority;
  - Increase in green cover, especially tree plantations, gardens, orchards in and around all monuments to act as filter and protection;
  - Provision of electrically powered automobiles in an area around Taj Mahal and compulsory replacement of petroleum oil based vehicles. Use of CNG based vehicles in the area. Such area should be extended from time to time so that clean energy is maximised;
  - Observance of abundant precautions with regard to increasing any possible loads on monuments through lighting, illumination, abnormal increase in visitors, especially into unventilated spaces;
  - Erection of minimum clear unoccupied open spaces around those declared as sensitive areas and heritage sites;
  - Establishment of meteorological observatories and air quality monitoring stations in Agra-Mathura-Ferozabad to compile meteorological and air quality data within India Meteorological Department. Strengthening of the scientific divisions for survey and analysis. Acquisition of software and augmentation of personnel for modelling to meet increasing demands for environmental impact assessment;
  - Establishment and support of Departments and Divisions in Universities, Technological Institutes, National Laboratories for expertise development of human resource and facilities in environmental observations analysis, technique and predictions by autonomous, independent peer group. Support may be provided through Ministry of Environment & Forests and Ministry of Science & Technology;
  - Review of current legal framework and additional measures and powers to effectively protect and preserve cultural heritage while promoting economic growth.
- (c) Establishment of non-polluting new units not using coal/coke could be considered subject to the existing rules and regulations of the State and Central Government and directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court from time to time.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Hydel Power Project**

1809. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI :  
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some hydel power projects in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of resources and technology to be mobilised for these projects;

(d) the details of foreign assistance sought for these projects, State-wise;

(e) the present status of each project;

(f) the installed hydel and thermal power generation capacity and the actual generation at the National level; and

(g) the average increase in the percentage of cost of production in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Recurrence of Tornadoes**

1810. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recurrence of tornadoes within two years in the subcontinent in West Bengal and Bangladesh merits special attention of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Government are aware of the weather phenomena resulting in occurrence of tornadoes in the North-Eastern parts of the country including the State of West Bengal.

(b) The North-Eastern parts of the country including the State of West Bengal are vulnerable to experience violent thunderstorms during April and May each year known as "Norwester" and locally termed as "Kabaisakhis". They are basically thundersqualls and are short lived phenomena. Whenever a thundersquall becomes more intense and organised it assumes characteristics of a tornado which has a great damage potential. Since tornado is a sudden local development which takes place in a short span of about an hour, area-specific and time-specific warning and forecast of its

occurrence is not possible. However, general warning is always issued at least 24 hours in advance about the occurrence of "Norwester". For enhancing the forecasting capability of such phenomena the Government are planning to replace existing radars at Calcutta and Paradip by latest state-of-the-art technology "Doppler Radar" during the Ninth Plan period.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Legal Aid to the Poor**

1811. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide free legal aid to the economically backward people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 contains a scheme to provide free legal aid to the weaker sections of the society; including economically backward people. Every person who has to file or defend a case shall be entitled to legal services under this Act if that person is—

(a) a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;

(b) A victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;

(c) a woman or a child;

(d) a mentally ill or otherwise disabled person;

(e) a person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or

(f) an industrial workman; or