

[Translation]

Survey on Nizamuddin Area

3465. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued directives to the Department of Archaeological Survey of India to constitute a group to conduct a comprehensive survey of Nizamuddin area of the Capital, Delhi and to find out the monument and the tomb of famous poet 'Zaukh' located therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department of Archaeological Survey of India has find out the said monuments and the tomb;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A team of experts has surveyed the monuments in the Nizamuddin area of New Delhi. The area where the grave of the famous poet 'Zaukh' existed has also been separately identified.

(e) Question does not arise.

[English]

Saline Land in Rajasthan

3466. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fast degradation of saline land in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the main reasons responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problem of salinity in the State?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

M/s. Boehringer Mannheim (India) Limited

3467. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the production and sale of adulterated contaminated drug (Comsat Forte) by M/s. Boehringer Mannheim (India) Ltd. as detected by FDA-Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed in terms of fresh initiative to tighten the inspection and detection of inferior/sub-standard drug through FDA State Governments;

(d) the comprehensive plan of action of quality control and rampant sale of sub-standard drugs in rural and semi-urban areas of many States; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The instance occurred at the free cataract surgery Eye Camps organised by Non-Government Organisations at Ahmed Nagar, Maharashtra and village Peresanda, District Kolar in Karnataka where persons on being administered different batches of Comsat Tablets (an antibacterial preparation manufactured by Boehringer Mannheim (I) Ltd., Thane reported adverse reactions which also resulted in the death of 2 persons in Karnataka. Samples of different batches of Comsat Forte Tablets on analysis revealed that it contained an anti-diabetic compound (Glibenclamide) as adulterant in them which caused adverse reactions in persons undergoing treatment. After in-depth investigations by Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), Government of Maharashtra, cancelled licences of the firm and persons involved in manufaiture and sale of the said drugs were arrested. FIRs were lodged against them as per the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder.

(c) to (e). The State Licensing Authorities have been asked to ensure compliance of Good Manufacturing Practices by manufacturing unit, as laid down under Schedule 'M' of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and to strengthen their enforcement staff as well as their quality control laboratories. In order to prevent circulation of substandard drugs moving in the interstate Commerce, the State Licensing Authorities have been empowered under Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, to destroy such stock lying with the manufacturer/dealer. In pursuance of Drugs Policy, 1994, this Ministry have initiated steps to set up a National Drugs Authority. Besides many other functions, the Authority will streamline the registration and quality control of drugs moving in the inter-sate Commerce and by establishing new zonal/Sub-zonal Offices as well as by establishing Regional Drugs Testing Laboratories.

Sardar Sarovar Project

3468. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the request of Government of Gujarat for declaring the 'Sardar Sarover Project' as

a National Project is still pending with the Union Government.

(b) if so, the action taken so far by the Union Government in this regard:

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be declared as a National Project; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c). Do not arise.

(d) No project in irrigation sector has been declared as National Project.

Cray Super Computers

3469. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are likely to permit the purchase of the Cray Super Computer for the Indian Institute of Science from Silicon Graphics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decision is likely to affect the nation's own super computer project; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to safeguard the interest of indigenous industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[Translation]

PM's Talks with World Dignitaries

3470. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister met various dignitaries of other countries during his recent visits to Harare and Rome; and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, dignitary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). During his visit to Harare to attend the G-15 Summit, Prime Minister had meetings with the President of Egypt, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Prime Minister of Senegal and President of Zimbabwe.

Egypt

The meeting was in the form of a *tete-a-tete* and included a review of bilateral relations as also issues of international interest.

Malaysia

During the meeting with the Prime Minister of Malaysia on 3 November, bilateral political and economic issues were discussed as well as how best to take India-Malaysia relationship forward. Regional and multilateral issues of common concern were also discussed. The need for working together in forums like G-15 and World Trade Organisation was emphasised.

Senegal

Discussions with the Prime Minister of Senegal included a review of the status of various bilateral projects which India is undertaking/contemplating in Senegal. It was also agreed that the President of Senegal would visit India in early 1997. A memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of Entrepreneurship and Technical Development Centre in Senegal was signed under which Senegal would provide infrastructural support and India would provide technical expertise, equipment, training and personnel for small industries projects for 3 years.

Zimbabwe

In a gesture demonstrative of India's commitment to South-South cooperation, our Prime Minister gifted to the President of Zimbabwe, a rural automatic telephone exchange manufactured in India. A Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the development of small scale industries in Zimbabwe was signed on 2 November, 1996 which stipulates that Zimbabwe would provide infrastructural support and India would provide technical expertise, equipment, training and personnel for small industries projects for 3 years.

2. During his visit to Rome, the Prime Minister held discussions with the president of Indonesia, Prime Minister of Italy, Vice President of Iraq, President of Cyprus, Prime Minister of China, First Vice President of Iran, Prime Minister of Nepal, President of Cuba, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and President of Afghanistan.

Indonesia

During his meeting with President Soeharto of Indonesia, the two leaders discussed means to build and expand bilateral relations. The need to strengthen India's relations with ASEAN countries in general was also discussed. India's interest in participating in Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) was expressed.

Italy

During his meeting with Prime Minister of Italy, Prime Minister discussed matters of bilateral interest including