

have been initiated by the National Highway Authority of India for improvement of Delhi - Moradabad Highway.

Other steps taken to boost the export of handicrafts include: sponsoring of sales-cum-study team abroad; organisation of buyer - seller meets; organisation of workshops/seminars; participation in international fairs/festivals; organisation of Indian Handicrafts and Gifts fair. etc.

**Removal of Maharashtra from
World Bank Loan List**

3260. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has removed Maharashtra from its top priority status to get the World Bank Loan;

(b) if so, reasons cited by the World Bank;

(c) whether about 10 mega ongoing projects of the state are likely to be affected due to this decision;

(d) if so, the details of such projects;

(e) whether several new proposals are also likely to be delayed;

(f) if so, the details of such projects;

(g) whether the Government are considering to take up the matter with World Bank; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The World Bank approves loans to States based upon their meeting the criteria laid down by the Bank. Government of India have not been informed by the World Bank regarding the status of Maharashtra. World Bank has approved a project viz. Maharashtra Health System Project, for an amount of US\$ 134 million on Dec. 9, 1998. Thus, the question of removing Maharashtra from 'Top Priority' status does not arise.

(b) to (h) Do not arise.

New Tourism Policy

3261. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL:
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
SHRI N. DENNIS:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated new policy for Tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of investment on both Government, Private and Foreign Direct Investment alongwith package of fiscal and other incentives proposed under new Tourism Policy;

(d) the details of broad features alongwith major thrust areas thereof;

(e) the details of infrastructural development proposed for promotion of tourism and attract international tourists; and

(f) the details of special status proposed for tourism and accelerate growth of tourists in the country during the current year and next four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (f) The Ministry of Tourism has prepared a Draft National Tourism Policy. The salient features of the draft Policy are the following:—

1. The Policy emphasises on the involvement of the Union Govt., State Govts., Private and the Public Sector in the development of tourism.
2. It clearly delineates the responsibilities of the Government and the Private sector.
3. It identifies the areas of special interest like North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Island etc.
4. It envisages the development of a dynamic private sector by providing the necessary facilitation services and incentives.

5. It emphasises on the diversification of tourism products including Rural Tourism, Pilgrim Tourism, Eco Tourism, Health Tourism etc.
6. It emphasises on product development including refurbishment of monuments, promotion of fairs and festivals, integrated area development etc.
7. It lays emphasis on the requirement of coordination for infrastructure development including Airport and Air services, Railways, Road Transport, Accommodation, Restaurants and other tourist facilities.

A Group of Ministers under the Chairmanship of Minister of Tourism and a Standing Committee of Secretaries for Tourism under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary have already been set up for ensuring effective coordination in the development of tourism infrastructure.

Tourism establishments earning foreign exchange of Rs. 6 crores and above per year have been accorded Export House status alongwith the related incentives like Special Import Licenses etc.

The draft Policy does not set any targets of investment.

[*Translation*]

Community Development

3262. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on community development by the B.C.C.L. during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 upto October 31, 1998;

(b) the works on which the amount has been spent under the community development during the above period indicating the amount spent on each work;

(c) whether the community development works has also undertaken outside the Dhanbad district of Bihar and Vardhman district of West Bengal;

(d) if so, the details of those works undertaken; and

(e) the justification of the said works undertaken outside the districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The amount spent on community development by the Bharat Coking Coal Limited during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 upto 31.10.1998 is given below:—

Year	Amount spent (Rs. lakhs)
1996-97	56.68
1997-98	58.87
1998-99 (upto 31.10.98)	22.56 (provisional)

(b) The details of works done under the community development programme during the above period including balance of work to be done during the current year i.e. 1998-99 and the amount spent are as under:—

Sl. No.	Work done	Amount Paid during		
		1996-97 (Rs.)	1997-98 (Rs.)	1998-99 (Upto) 31.10.98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Construction of Community Centre	11,11,802	4,69,796	Wrok in Progress
2.	Installation of Hand Pump	7,54,854	8,28,712	
3.	Renovation of Pond	88,987	—	