

considering this proposal keeping in view the necessity for the said National Highway and the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Annual Plan 1998-99 is yet to be finalised and it is too early to give details.

[English]

Construction of Freedom Memorial

765. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken by the Government to construct a freedom memorial as part of the 50 years celebration of India's Independence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of the memorial?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI): (a) and (b) The National Committee for the Commemoration of 50 years of India's Independence have approved the idea of the construction of a freedom memorial and also desired that a group of historians should be commissioned to re-draft the Concept Note. An expert Committee has been set up to look into the technical, historical and architectural and other detail. The said expert committee has met twice to consider the matter in detail. The Government is yet to take a decision on the recommendations of the expert committee.

Pollution By Fertilizer Plants

766. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the Fertilizer plants causing water and air pollution in the country;

(b) if so, the action initiated by the Government against these Fertilizer plants; and

(c) the specific steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop water and air pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Out a total of 110 fertilizer plants identified in the country for priority action for pollution control, 96 have provided the requisite pollution control facilities, 8 are closed and the remaining 6 are defaulters. Out of 6 defaulting units, action has been initiated against 4 units under Section 5 of the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 by the Central Pollution Control Board and the matter regarding the remaining 2 units is sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Eco/Environment Clubs

767. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR:

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI:

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

(a) the details of Eco/Environment clubs opened for training on the environmental education, State-wise;

(b) the extent to which the targets set for such training have been achieved;

(c) the details of districts selected for "Paryavaran Vahinis" in the country; and

(d) the norms, if any, laid for the determination of cares excellence for promotion of environment?

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) The State-wise details of Eco-clubs set up during last three years are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) No physical targets have been set up for achievements by the Eco-clubs. However, these Eco-clubs have been successful in educating school children about various environmental issues.

(c) So far, 195 districts have been selected for constitution of Paryavaran Vahinis in the country. State-wise distribution of Paryavaran Vahinis is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) The Centres of Excellence are set up in renowned institutions for research, education and training activities in priority areas of environmental sciences.

Statement

List of Eco-Clubs set up in Various States for Training on Environment Education

S.No.	State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	222	86	185
2.	Assam	26	31	26
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	—	—
4.	Bihar	40	—	179