

Central Schools in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be established; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to establish New Kendriya Vidyalayas in Maharashtra during 1997-98. Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened at places wherever there is concentration of transferable Central Government employees/Defence employees and the sponsoring Departments/agencies provide physical facilities including land, temporary accommodation, as per the norms prescribed by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

[*English*]

Release of Grant

761. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had demanded money for the establishment of primary, upper primary schools as well as expansion of upper primary schools in the State under the Operation Black Board Scheme;

(b) if so, the total amount released for the purpose as on October 31, 1997; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) A proposal for opening of primary and upper primary schools in Low Female Literacy Blocks of the State has been received. As it is a new scheme, it is not being considered for implementation in the current year as per instructions of the Finance Ministry. Another proposal for teaching learning equipment in 1770 Upper Primary Schools has been received and for further processing of the proposal, the State Government has been repeatedly requested to convene meeting of State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC).

For reasons mentioned above, no money has been released to Government of Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year so far.

[*Translation*]

Amendment to Indian Forest Act, 1927

762. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI MADAN PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to make amendments in the Indian Forest Act, 1927:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has undertaken a detailed exercise to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1927 to provide for restoration, conservation and management of forests and also to consolidate the various State amendments for providing a uniform law thereby.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Gambling in Cricket

763. SHRI VIJAY PATEL:

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to probe into the alleged gambling in Cricket in collusion with players through CBI;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the likely frame of investigation;

(d) the total foreign exchange earnings by the Indian Cricket team during the last three years; and

(e) the amount of outflow of foreign exchange for playing Cricket against foreign teams in our country during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN): (a) to (e) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Construction Work of NH in Maharashtra

764. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has demanded to include construction work of National Highway from Gandhchirauli (Maharashtra) to Nizamabad-Macherial-Sironela Bhopal Palpatnam Bijapur-Jagdapur via Andhra Pradesh and the construction of bridge on Pranhita river in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether this proposal would be included in the annual budget of 1998-99; and

(c) whether the Government have been seriously

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