

different new menus, introduction of new crockery and cutlery in Executive class.

Study on tribals of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh

3158. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, has submitted the reports of the study carried out on Genetic and Socio cultural Determinants of tribal health of a primitivetible Kutla Kondlis (Orissa) and Baster tribal groups of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the main recommendations and suggestions made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations relate to socio-cultural and environmental awareness; Nutrition; Maternal and Child Health, Genetic Disorders; School Education and Land and Forest.

Maharashtra Express from Gondia to Kolhapur

3159. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives have been received for running of the Maharashtra Express from Gondia to Kolhapur instead of Nagpur;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to extend Maharashtra Express upto Gondia.

(c) Extension is not feasible on account of operational and resources constraints.

Dwindling of Siberian Cranes

3160. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

(a) whether the Siberian Cranes population has been dwindling away at the Ghana (Bharatpur) Bird Sanctuary;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to preserve the Crane population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b). There is a decline in the number of Siberian Cranes arriving at the Keoladeo National Park (Bharatpur) each year for wintering. The exact reasons for this decline are not known. It may be due to poor breeding of the birds in their breeding grounds in Siberia, their decimation during their long migration to Keoladeo over different countries or use of alternative wintering grounds by these birds due to recurrent droughts in the Keoladeo National Park.

(c) Steps taken/proposed to be taken to preserve the Siberian cranes include:

(i) The Siberian crane has been included in Schedul I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thus giving it maximum possible legal Protection.

(ii) Central assistance is being provided for the development and conservation of the Keoladeo National Park, including for ameliorating the drought conditions whenever they prevail.