

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The International Safety Management (I.S.M.) Code will come into effect for different categories of vessels of Shipping Corporation of India as per the following schedule :

- (i) In respect of all passenger ships including high speed light craft (regardless of size), oil tankers, chemical tankers, gas carriers, bulk carriers and cargo high speed crafts of 500 gross tonnage and over, with effect from 1st July, 1998.
- (ii) For other cargo ships and mobile off-shore drilling units of 500 gross tonnage and over, with effect from 1st July, 2002.

Shipping Corporation of India has already initiated action to ensure compliance with the I.S.M. Code, well before it comes into force.

[English]

#### Assistance to Schools for Science Laboratories

3365. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government are providing the financial assistance to recognised schools for upgradation of science laboratories;
- (b) if so, the total assistance provided during each of the last two years, State-wise;
- (c) whether any requests for financial assistance from schools are pending; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Improvement of Science Education in Schools, financial assistance is provided by the Government to the States for upgradation of deficient laboratories in Government and Government aided secondary/senior secondary school. The State-wise details of assistance provided for upgradation of science laboratories in the schools during 1994-95 and 1995-96, is enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d). Neither any requests, received directly from the schools are considered under the Scheme nor any assistance is provided direct to the schools. Therefore, the question of any request from the schools for financial assistance pending with the Government does not arise.

#### STATEMENT

Name of the State	Amount of assistance provided	
	1994-95	1995-96
Andhra Pradesh	-	Rs. 34,20,000/-
Assam	Rs. 6,00,000/-	-
Goa	Rs. 7,80,000/-	-
Karnataka	-	Rs. 2,07,90,000/-
Kerala	-	Rs. 2,62,80,000/-
Madhya Pradesh	-	Rs. 92,10,000/-
Maharashtra	Rs. 4,47,60,000/-	-
Nagaland	Rs. 3,25,080/-	Rs. 2,11,302/-
Punjab	Rs. 77,10,000/-	Rs. 42,00,000/-
Tripura	-	Rs. 9,90,000/-
Total	Rs. 5,41,75,080/-	Rs. 6,51,01,302/-

[Translation]

#### Paper of Combined Defence Service

3366. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Question paper of Combined Defence Service is provided to candidates only in English language;
- (b) whether Government propose to introduce the question paper in Hindi also for the Combined Service like other Civil Services examinations; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A proposal to introduce multi-lingual system of examination for all the Services for which selection is made by the Union Public Service Commission, based on the recommendations on Dr. Satish Chandra Committee, is presently under examination in the Department of Personnel and Training.

[English]

#### Visit of Foreign Minister of Bangladesh

3367. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME :  
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation led by Foreign Minister of Bangladesh visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues that were discussed during the visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) the progress made in regard to resolving the issues of Ganga water sharing and repatriation of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh; and

(d) the outcome of Prime Minister's meeting with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh in Rome recently?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Mr. Abdus Samad Azad, Bangladesh Foreign Minister visited India From November 8-14, 1996. He called on the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, and Speaker. He also held wide ranging discussions with Minister of External Affairs and also had meetings with Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Water Resources. On the issue of Ganges water sharing, both sides reiterated their intention of arriving at an agreement on a fair and equitable sharing of Ganges water before the onset of next dry season. During the visit it was indicated by our Ministry of Commerce that it is working towards the operationalisation of tariff concessions on a range of items of export interest to Bangladesh by January 1, 1997. It was agreed that the India-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission would meet as early as possible. The issues related to security such as insurgency, illegal immigration, smuggling etc. were raised when Bangladesh Foreign Minister called on Home Minister in Delhi. It was agreed to further strengthen cooperation in border management and to curb undesirable activities. Regarding the repatriation of the Chakma refugees Bangladesh Foreign Minister said that a high-powered delegation would be sent to refugee camps in Tripura to encourage the refugees to return to their homes. It was decided to expedite action on demarcation of the boundary and exchange of enclaves.

(d) During the meeting between our Prime Minister and the Bangladesh Prime Minister on November 17, 1996 at Rome, India-Bangladesh relations were reviewed and it was agreed to take steps to enhance the relations in all areas of interest to both sides.

#### Express Highways

3368. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL :  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct Express Highways/Super National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the routes, Highway-wise and State-wise;

(c) the funds earmarked, if any, for the purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). The National Highways Authority of India, on behalf of the Central Government, had invited global tenders for carrying out feasibility studies for 323 proposed sections of Super National Highways in the country. However, due to paucity of funds for land acquisition it has not been possible to proceed with the scheme.

[Translation]

#### Rani Anwashibai Barghi Dam Project

3369. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire work of Rani Anwashibai Barghi Dam Project in Madhya Pradesh has been completed;

(b) whether proper arrangement for rehabilitation of the people affected from the dam has been made and the amount given for rehabilitation;

(c) whether any remaining schemes are pending for the affected people; and

(d) if so, the time by which the work on these scheme will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Dam and Power House of Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (Bargi Dam Project) have been completed in 1987. The works on the Bargi Left Bank Canal are in progress.

(b) An amount of Rs. 16.52 crores has been paid as compensation for the land to 11,655 land owners whose land has been affected due to submergence. Rehabilitation grant of Rs. 1.48 crores has been distributed to affected families. A plan for Rs. 10.00 crores was approved in April 1988 by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for rehabilitation and resettlement of oustees of the Bargi Dam. The main features of the plan are :

(i) Issue of Identity Cards to project affected persons.

(ii) Rehabilitation grant @ Rs. 2,700/- per family.

(iii) Residential plot of 90 ft. x 60 ft.

(iv) Setting up of schools, dispensaries, market places, ration shop, electricity and water supply arrangements in the resettlement colonies.

(v) Creating opportunities for employment.

(vi) Provision of Government transport for shifting of the belonging to the resettlement colonies, and

(vii) An amount @ 20% of the amount of compensation for house for meeting expenditure on dismantling etc.