

ments in the country and international exposure, (iii) assisting the State Governments and other bodies for creation of infrastructure and synthetic surfaces, (iv) setting up a Centre of Excellence for Hockey at Bangalore, (v) development of training module through an expert group.

Purchasing of Ships for Ports

3731. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the name of ports for which orders have been placed for purchasing of ships;

(b) whether any funds have been allocated for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these ships will be ready for passengers and for carrying goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No Port purchases ships.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Land Acquisition for Jawaharlal Nehru Port

3732. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have acquired the land of farmers for Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the number of farmers whose land has been acquired and whether the Government have formulated any scheme for their permanent rehabilitation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons rehabilitated so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. About 1172 hectares of land was acquired in 1982-83 from 3016 Khatedars (land owners), mostly farmers, through the State Government of Maharashtra, which had reached a settlement with the land affected persons with regard to the amount of compensation and their re-settlement, on 13th March, 1984, according to which compensation at the rate of Rs. 75,000/- per hectare was to be paid to the land owners. In addition, it was agreed that additional land equal to 12.5% of total agricultural land acquired for Jawaharlal Nehru Port will be acquired and developed by the State Government through City Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) and developed plots would be offered to the project affected persons on certain payment to meet partly development cost. Financial implication for Jawaharlal Nehru Port on this account was worked out by the State Government as Rs. 1.2 crores. The Port Trust has already expressed its willingness to pay this amount. The port has provided direct employment to 888 persons of the families whose land had been acquired. Other schemes formulated by the port Trust

resulted in direct employment on contract basis to about 500 persons from the families whose land had been acquired. Employment opportunities for such families also provided through contractors, port users, transport contractors and other port based industries such as warehouses, container freight stations. The port has rehabilitated 668 families of displaced villages of Hanuman Koliwada and Navin Sheva by providing land and civic amenities such as housing, roads, electricity, water supply, schools, anganwadi etc. Civic facilities have also been provided by the Port Trust to the nearby project affected villages of Jaskhar, Karal, Sonari and Belpada.

Biosphere Reserves

3733. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH:

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

(a) whether Government have identified the little Rann of Kutch in Gujarat and Shillong in Meghalaya as biosphere reserves;

(b) if so, whether these have been notified as biosphere reserves by Government for their proper development;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the likely time by which these are likely to be notified as biosphere reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Little Rann of Kutch in Gujarat has been identified as potential site for designation as biosphere reserve by the Group of Experts constituted by the Intian National Man and Biosphere (MAB) Committee under the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Shillong in Meghalaya has not been identified as potential site for designation as biosphere reserve.

(b) to (d) A project proposal for designation of Little Rann of Kutch as biosphere reserve is currently under examination of the State Government of Gujarat. Notification of the site as biosphere reserve depends on the recommendations of the State Government.

M.A.R.R. System in Bihar

[*Translation*]

3734. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether M.A.R.R. system (Tower) telephone has been installed in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the number of such M.A.R.R. system installed in Bihar, district-wise;

(c) the number of such telephone towers installed in Bokaro district are yet to commence work;

(d) whether telephone exchanges in Bermon and Chandrapura regions in Dhanbad division are not working satisfactorily;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether complaints have been received against the installation of such system at some other places, violating the rules;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Two MARR systems installed in Bokaro district are yet to commence work.

(d) No Sir, they are generally working satisfactorily.

(e) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

(f) No Sir.

(g) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (f) above.

(h) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (f) above.

III Treatment to Animals

[English]

3735. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the animals are being ill treated in circus and roadside shows;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to reduce the sufferings of such animals; and

(c) whether the Government propose to impose a total ban on the animal shows in circus and roadside shows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India had imposed a ban on exhibition and training of certain species of animals under the provisions of Prevention of the Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960). The aforesaid order has, however, been stayed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. On the request of the petitioners, Hon'ble Court had directed the Ministry to consider the whole issue afresh, keeping in view all the available information on the subject. The Ministry has made following submission to the Court.

(i) The animals, the display of which has been banned by the impugned notification, already in the possession of the circuses may be retained by the circuses provided all the animals which have reached the stage of reproduction are sterilized.

(ii) A status report regarding the animals retained by the circuses is furnished to the Government every three years.

(iii) The cubs and calfs that are born, after the impugned order coming into effect under the order of the Hon'ble High Court, must be handed over by the circuses to the Government. The same principle should apply to lions also. The elephants, horses which can be transported without cages and the birds, which do not require very large cages, can continue to be used for display purposes by the circuses. Regarding use of other animals excluding the banned species, for performances may be drafted and enforced in due course.

(iv) The circuses should display only such animal tricks that do not demean the animals and also do not harm them physically and psychologically.

The aforesaid case is listed for hearing on 3.8.98.

Allotment of TDMA Equipments

3736. SHRI MANJUNATH AYANUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list of telephone connections in Karnataka, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that due to acute shortage of cables, line materials and other equipments, the expansion work of telephone exchanges and allotment of telephone connections have been stagnated in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether telephone exchanges are not working satisfactorily in the State;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government have received any request for the allotment of TDMA equipments in the State; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) The details of waiting list as on 31.5.98 is given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d) There is no stagnation in the expansion work of telephone exchanges and allotment of telephone connections. Targets for providing new telephone connections during 1997-98 were not only fully achieved but exceeded.