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	Name of the College	Sanctioned by the Council	Admitted by the College
1.	Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore	150	245
2.	Mysore Medical College, Mysore	100	205
3.	Vijayanagar Institute of Medical Sciences, Bellary	100	140
4.	Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences, Hubli	50	147
		400	737

The Medical Council of India in pursuance of the order dated 1.10.96 of High Court of Karnataka and on receipt of proposal from State Government for enhancement of seats in M.B.B.S. in Government Medical Colleges, inspected all the Government Medical Colleges with a view to determine the admission capacity. On inspection it was noted that while colleges at Bangalore and Mysore were having infrastructural facilities for 150 and 100 admissions respectively, the colleges at Bellary and Hubli were not having infrastructural facilities even for the intake permitted by the Medical Council of India. In view of gross infrastructural deficiencies in the colleges at Bellary and Hubli, Medical Council of India recommended to the Central Government that admissions in these colleges may be stopped with immediate effect unless the deficiencies are rectified and compliance report submitted. The deficiencies were brought to the notices of the State Government and on the basis of compliance report these medical colleges were allowed to continue with the intake fixed by the Medical Council of India i.e. 100 students at Bellary College and 50 students at Hubli College. Further, in view of the finding and recommendations of the Medical Council of India, no increase of seats was permitted over and above the intake already sanctioned by the Medical Council of India and proposals for enhancement of seats in all the above four colleges were disapproved.

(c) A total of 337 seats were reduced in four Government Medical Colleges for want of infrastructural facilities.

(d) to (g) There is no provision in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations framed thereunder for restoration of intake once the intake is fixed by the Central Government on the recommendations of the Medical Council of India. Increase of seats is allowed on the basis of infrastructural facilities and as per the provisions of Indian Medical Council Act and Regulations framed thereunder. No fresh proposal has been received from the State Government for increase of seats in above college.

Sethusamudram Project

1797. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN:
SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to execute Sethusamudram Project on the lines of the Konkan Railway;

(b) if so, the options being considered by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the present status of the project and the steps taken by the Government to execute the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN):

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Initial Environmental Examination of Sethusamundram Project has been done by National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur. The final Report in this regard has been received from NEERI. This Report has been forwarded to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The Planning Commission has been requested to provide for an outlay of Rs. 5 crores for this Project in the Annual Plan 1999-2000 for the preparation of Detailed Feasibility and Environmental Impact Assessment Studies.

Land Acquisition by HP/BP in Poona

1798. SHRI VITHAL TUPE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum have acquired the land of the farmers of village Loni-Kalbhori, district Poona for the purpose of Terminal Station;

(b) if so, the details of land acquired by the two companies;

(c) whether at the time of acquisition of land the farmers were promised to provide jobs atleast to one member of the affected family;

(d) if so, the number of affected families to whom jobs have been provided;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (f) Recently HPCL have not acquired any land at Loni-Kalbhori, distt. Poona for any Terminal Station. However, the Corporation has an existing Terminal for Mumbai-Pune pipeline at Loni which was setup in 1982. As per HPCL at the time of the acquisition of land, no assurance/promise was given/made by HPCL for giving any jobs to

the members of project affected families. Also there is no outstanding representation from any of the original land owners for any jobs.

So far as BPCL is concerned, the Corporation is in the process of acquiring land. However, the land could not be taken over due to refusal of land-owners, who have also filed writ petition in the Mumbai High Court on 8.10.98 and the matter is subjudice.

Population of Sarus and Cranes

1799. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the number of Indian Sarus and Cranes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have also made any study regarding the population of Cranes in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details regarding the population of Sarus as well as Cranes in the State while comparing it to the last survey made in 1984;

(e) whether population of Cranes has dwindled drastically over the last few years; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) No systematic survey of Indian Sarus and other Cranes has been conducted across the country. However, according to ecological survey carried out by one Non Governmental Organisation, the population of Sarus Cranes during 1987-88 was between 12000-15000 for the entire country. State-wise details are not available.

(c) and (d) The Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation has recently conducted Sarus Cranes survey according to which estimated number of birds in the state is between 1700-1800. Reliable figures for 1984 are not available.

(e) and (f) The decline in the population of Cranes is mainly due to draining of wetlands for agricultural purposes and heavy concentration of pesticides in agricultural fields.