

Malegaon and other cities of Maharashtra and in rural areas and help them in their economic development.

English]

(ii). Need to fulfil the minimum basic requirements of Primary Schools especially those located in the rural areas of the country

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore : Though our country is marching towards 21st century, but due attention is not paid to primary education. In most of the primary schools in our country, the basic needs and elementary requirements of buildings, books, learning material, drinking water and playgrounds are not available in sufficient quantity, not to speak of quality.

A study conducted by the UNICEF on child education in India shows that the percentages of buildings, blackboards, libraries, are far from minimum requirements.

The average overall physical conditions in the whole of India, including smaller States and Union Territories, are : buildings 47 per cent, blackboards 16 per cent, libraries 29 per cent, playgrounds 20 per cent, toilets about 20 per cent, drinking water about 30 per cent, which shows appalling neglect of health of the body which is the receptacle of the heart, the nerves, the brain and the soul.

When the Government is going to implement the new education policy in the country very soon, I would request the Union Government to look to this very burning problem putting utmost priority, so that the minimum basic requirements of primary schools in the country, specially those situated in rural areas, which are most neglected, are fulfilled before the introduction of the new education policy.

(iii) Need to declare Nagar Malshet Kalyan Ghat Road as National Highway

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP (Thane) : Sir, Bombay is connected by two Ghat Roads with the nation but both the ghats, namely, Pune Ghat and Nasik Ghat are overburdened and, therefore, Maharashtra State constructed a new Ghat Road, namely, Nagar Malshet Kalyan Ghat at the cost of about Rs. 3 crores. This ghat joins Marathwada, a backward area, to Bombay by short route but still traffic is not diverted, to a large extent, from other two ghats as Malshet Ghat Road is not of National Highway standard.

The State of Maharashtra has requested the Central Government to take up the Malshet Ghat Road as a National Highway but the matter is pending since long with the Central Government. Therefore, it is earnestly requested that Nagar Malshet Kalyan Ghat Road be declared as National Highway immediately.

(iv) Need to declare Ahmednagar Fort as a National Monument and to remove restrictions on the entry of the visitors into the Fort

SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL (Ahmednagar) : Sir visitors are not allowed to visit the Ahmednagar Fort which is of historical importance in view of the fact that our great national leaders were imprisoned there in pre-independence days. The Fort is controlled by the Defence Authorities. People who come to visit the Fort in order to pay homage to our beloved great leaders of independence struggle are disappointed. The Fort should be declared as a National Monument and restrictions on the entry of the visitors should be removed.

[Translation]

(v) Need to streamline the procedure regarding selection of members of the Union and State Public Service Commissions and to bring about necessary changes in the method of selection of candidates by these Commissions