

(d) the precise dates and duration of the proposed conference ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) to (d). The Pollution Control Research Institute, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Hardwar has proposed to hold a conference on environmental impact assessment during November-December, 1988 at New Delhi. It is for BHEL to work out further details of the conference.

Financial Irregularities in Asiatic Society

*235. SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA :
SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased state :

(a) whether there have been financial irregularities in the Asiatic Society; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the delinquent persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Inspection Report, 1985-86 and the Audit Report, 1986-87 received last year from the Director of Audit, Central Calcutta have brought out a number of cases of financial irregularities such as : non-realisation of arrears of membership-subscription; purchase of instruments, equipment like lamination machine etc., without inviting open tenders; renovation of old building without inviting tenders; installation of air-conditioning plant on the basis of limited tenders; award of contract for production of documentary film without proper approval; non-recovery of unutilised advances; non-realisation of arrears of rent from tenants; irregular appointment of foreign teachers; unauthorised expenditure on the Institute of Higher Sanskrit Studies and Research; printing of journals without tenders and imported films lying unutilised.

Instructions have been issued from time to time to the Society to take corrective remedial measures, avoid repetition of such irregularities and take action against those responsible for the defaults.

[Translation]

National Highway Finance Corporation

*236. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to set up National Highway Finance Corporation to meet the growing needs to finance the construction and development of National Highway network has since been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The various aspects of the proposal are under examination.

[English]

Coach Manufacturing Factory at Kapurthala

*238. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when the foundation of the railway coach manufacturing factory at Kapurthala was laid;

(b) when the foundation work was scheduled to be completed and the manufacturing of the coaches expected to begin;

(c) the present position with regard to its completion and the reasons for the delay; and