

(a) whether tubewells and handpumps are being installed in Andhra Pradesh with the financial assistance provided by the World Bank to fight against the drought conditions and scanty rains in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the tubewells and handpumps installed during the last six months;

(c) details of tubewells and handpumps to be installed during the next six months;

(d) location of installation of these tubewells and handpumps; and

(e) the drought affected areas in the State that have not been covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Setting up of National Transportation Safety Board

*369. SHRI K.V. SHANKARA GOWDA.
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Transportation Safety Board is being set up to coordinate the safety of surface, rail and air transport;

(b) if so, the main functions and powers of the Board;

(c) whether the Board will coordinate the working of all the three transport systems; and

(d) if so, by what time the Board is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main functions and powers of

the Board shall be as follows:—

- (i) To oversee the functioning of the Sectoral Safety Organisations.
- (ii) To coordinate the formulation and implementation of safety related measures involving more than one sector of transport.
- (iii) To coordinate research and development of common interest to several modes of transport.
- (iv) To act as a clearing house for dissemination of information of safety related measures of interest to more than one transport sector.
- (v) To act as an umbrella organisation for involvement of agencies outside the transport sector for relief measures

The role of the proposed Board shall be recommendatory and not mandatory.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This is being actively pursued.

Contract for rail India technical and economic services limited

*370 SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH:
DR. D.N. REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited has been awarded a contract for the maintenance of the high speed railway line in Iraq; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITES) has been awarded a contract for operation and maintenance of the newly constructed Baghdad-Al-Qaim-Akashat

high speed railway line in Iraq, covering 514 route kms. The contract value is Rs. 182 crores.

Children's Science Park-cum-Museum

*371. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Children's Science Park-cum-Museum Project is proposed to be established in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether a blue-print has been prepared and the aims and objects of such Museum;

(c) the cost and time taken to complete the Project; and

(d) the number of children likely to be benefited by this project every month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The National Council of Science Museums propose to establish a Children's Science Park in Delhi. They also propose to establish a Science Museum at Pragati Maidan, Delhi. The aims and objectives are principally to disseminate knowledge of science and technology for better understanding by the people in general and students in particular, to develop scientific attitude and temper, to create, inculcate and sustain general awareness among the people about science and technology, to conduct research in History and Science

and Technology with special reference to India; to portray the growth of science and technology and their application in industry and human welfare and to supplement science education given in schools and colleges.

(c) The estimated cost is Rs. 8 crores. The time schedule for completion of the first phase is five years. The Project was started in 1985.

(d) The entire student community in Delhi and neighbouring areas in Northern India are likely to be benefited by the Project.

Percentage of Irrigated land

3793. PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of irrigated land in various States;

(b) the targets of irrigated land in these States; and

(c) whether increased Central assistance will be made available to reach these targets?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The information is given in the Statement below.

(c) Irrigation schemes are funded and implemented by the State Governments and Central assistance is given in the form of block grants and loans.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of State	Percentage of gross irrigated area to gross sown area (x)	Targets of irrigated lands (Ultimate potential (in '000 hectares)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37.8	9,200
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.0	NA