

ment of Parliamentary Affairs and that will be circulated to the hon. members in a day or to-day or to-morrow. Most of the activities are through the State Governments as will be seen from the plan of action. We have requested the State Governments to make a provision in their State Plans. Planning Commission has already agreed to give that money to the State Governments.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : I am glad that the hon. Minister has said that she has activated the children's Boards and that certain plans are being drafted for 1979—International Year for the Child. May I ask the hon. Minister what specific plans have been drawn in the two meetings which had taken place? Now we are almost at the end of 1978. What plans are going to be functioning in what time and what are the criteria?

SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARA-KATAKI : The strategy of the child welfare in successive as well as this International Year should be—an integrated approach to child welfare to provide coverage to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, giving emphasis to health, nutrition and education.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : This is a very vital issue. To oversee the children welfare, the present Government is not successfully organising the national programme with full financial assistance. The need of the hour is much more. But certain fascist forces are operating so far as the activities of the children are concerned. Certain national outlook has to be given to this to over-see developmental activities of the children of the country.

Therefore, will the hon. Education Minister kindly explain whether there is a national scheme for the welfare of the child in the country with full financial assistance? In many States, there are no Boards. Will the hon. Minister assure that he will have a national perspective in developing welfare boards for the child throughout the country so that the mind of child is developed and is not side-tracked by the fascist forces which are operating in this country right from the child stage.

SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARA-KATAKI : So far as the national policy is concerned, the hon. member most probably knows that we have a national policy for children. So far as this Government is concerned, the moment we took over, we re-constituted the National Boards and invited all the State Ministers of Social Welfare who are also in charge of Child Welfare, for a meeting. There, we

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discussed the plan of action which I have just now mentioned. All the State Governments have accepted it and for that, funds will be made available by the Planning Commission to implement these programmes within the State plans.

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 215.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : May I draw your attention? You have made observations during Question Hour which are very unkind and have no lags to stand upon. In fact, your utterances have misled the House. Rule 48, with regard to price of sugarcane, sub-rule 3...

MR. SPEAKER : I have read out the direction on the rule, the earlier Speakers have given. (Interruptions).

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Can a direction supersede the rule?

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is only an explanation; nothing more than that.

Conference of Town Planners

*217. **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :**

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Town Planners was held in New Delhi during the first week of November, 1978;

(b) if so, names and number of personnel who participated in the conference; and

(c) the matters discussed and decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Thirty-five officers participated in the meeting. List of participants is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) A statement giving the important items discussed and recommendations thereto is also placed on the Table of the Sabha.

List

List of participants to the meet of Chief Town Planners of States and Union Territories—held on 9th November, 1978 in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.]

1. Andhra Pradesh Shri N. Venu Gopala Reddy, Director of Town Planning
2. Assam Shri D. P. Nath, Town Planner and Ex. Officio Director of Town Planning.
3. Bihar Shri R. L. Bawa, Chief Town Planner.
4. Gujarat Shri D. G. Pandya, Senior Town Planner.
5. Haryana Shri J. C. Chopra, Senior Town Planner.
6. Himachal Pradesh Shri R. K. Mehta, Town & Country Planner.
7. Kerala Shri K. Thomas Poulse, Senior Town Planner.
8. Karnataka Shri N. Govindappa, Director of Town Planning.
9. Madhya Pradesh Shri K. Kaplish, Chief Town Planner.
10. Maharashtra Shri J. G. Keskar, Director of Town Planning.
11. Nagaland Shri S. B. Mitra, Senior Town Planner.
12. Orissa Shri D. R. K. Patnaik, Director of Town Planning.
13. Punjab Shri J. S. Ghuman, Chief Town Planner.
14. Rajasthan Shri B. Kambo, Chief Town Planner & Arch. Adviserge
15. Tamil Nadu Shri V. T. Thurairaj, Director of Town Planning
16. Uttar Pradesh Shri J. P. Dube, Chief Town & Country Planner.
17. West Bengal Shri C. Mazumdar, Chief Town Planner
18. Dadra & Nagar Haveli Shri D. D. Sunctankar, Associate Town Planner inchar of Town Planning.
19. Delhi Development Authority 1. Shri V. V. Bodas, Director City Planning.
2. Shri S. C. Gupta, Addl. Director (Planning).
20. Goa Shri S. P. Deshpande, Chief Town Planner.
21. Pondicherry Shri Martin Kolandai, Senior Town Planner.

Town and Country Planning Organisation]

1. Shri S. S. Shafi, Chief Planner.
2. Shri B. N. Rahalkar, Town & Country Planner.
3. Shri R. S. Chadha, Economic Planners.
4. Shri E. F. N. Ribeiro, Architect Planner.
5. Shri P. G. Valsangkar, Town & Country Planner.
6. Shri R. C. Gupta, Town & Country Planner.
7. Shri R. I. P. Sinha, Associate Town & Country Planner.
8. Shri N. Ranganathan, Addl. Town & Country Planner.

9. Shri P. N. Dave, Senior Research Officer.

10. Shri S. S. Dutta, Senior Research Officer.

11. Shri M. B. Bhatia, Associate Industrial Economist.

12. Miss K. Idnani, Research Officer.

Ministry of Works and Housing.

1. Shri P. S. A. Sundaram, Deputy Secretary (U.D.).

2. Shri K. K. Saxena, Desk Officer (UD-III).

Statement

The important items discussed in the meeting of the State Chief Town Planners' and their recommendations are indicated below:

Items discussed	Recommendations made
(a) Protection and Preservation of the natural setting and environment around Archaeological Monuments and Historical places.	(a) All States and Union Territories enact appropriate legislation and keep necessary funds to ensure that areas around ancient monuments and historical places are not spoiled and are adequately planned.
(b) Central Scheme for Integrated Urban Development in Metropolitan cities and Areas of National Importance.]	(b) Stress be given to the availability of statutory comprehensive plans as the basis for integrated development and a state level monitoring agency be set up in association with the State Town Planning Department.
(c) National Urbanisation Policy.	(c) Early formulation of a National Urbanisation Policy and increased financial allocation to urban areas particularly the small and medium towns.
(d) Decennial survey of urban land use; and evolving and adopting 'National Land Use Policy'.	(d) The need for decennial surveys of urban land use and that the first survey may synchronise with population census 1981.
(e) Integration of Rural Development Programmes within a special plan frame.	(e) The State Town Country Planning Department and the Town & Country Planning Organisation, New Delhi, may be involved in evolving a settlement system of basic villages, service village, service town and a market town—well in advance to help the State Governments in formulating policy decisions in this regard.
(f) Development of National Information System and establishment of Data Bank for each State.	(f) It was reiterated that all States should provide adequate funds for building up such information system at the state level to aid urban and regional planning and locational decisions.
(g) Constitution of Metropolitan transport authorities in the metropolitan cities.	(g) Early action be initiated to set up metropolitan transport authorities and the subject of urban transport be dealt with by the Central Ministry/State Department dealing with urban development.
(h) Creation of State Urban Development fund and earmarking of separate funds under urban development programmes for redevelopment schemes and beautification programmes.	(h) An urban development fund be immediately set up by all State Governments and resources for contribution towards this fund may be identified. The urban fund be operated by the State Town Planning Boards where they exist otherwise by State Town Planning Departments.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Part (h) of the Items discussed says:

"Creation of State Urban Development fund and earmarking of separate funds under urban development programmes for redevelopment schemes and beautification programmes."

Has any such fund been created for the development of the villages in the rural areas?

SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT : This is a recommendation made in the meeting of the Town Planners. It is still under the consideration of the Government and this particular recommendation relates to the recommendations made to the States.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : This is in regard to urban development.

SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT : These are only recommendations. These recommendations have been received by the Government and they are under consideration. We have not yet been able to take any decision.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : It must be within the knowledge of the hon. Minister that there is a great hue and cry in the rural areas because the Town and Country Planning Department in the State acquires very fertile land for setting up of markets, industries and new townships. Will the hon. Minister direct the Town and Country Planning Departments in the States to acquire only barren land and not fertile land, for this purpose?

Mr. Speaker, as industries are very important, agriculture is also very important and some of the cultivators are deprived of their whole holdings when the Town and Country Planning Department acquire their lands for the setting up of new industries. Will the Minister give directions to that effect to the Town and Country Planning Department?

SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT : Sir, housing is a subject which is in the State sector and this acquisition of land is done, in fact, directly by the States themselves. The question of direction hardly arises, but I have noted the suggestion of the hon. Member and I will try to see what can be done in this regard.

DR. KARAN SINGH : Sir, with the growth in population and the increasing urbanisation of the country, this whole question of town planning has become one of national importance. All sorts of unplanned townships are coming up throughout this country which are really going to create tremendous problems in the twenty-first century. Is the hon. Minister considering

any series of clear guidelines to the States so that now that this new development is taking place *ad missa* there should be some planning, or are we sitting back and allowing this unplanned growth to go?

SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT : With due apologies I do not think that this question arises from the original question asked, but still I would like to say that the Government is very much aware of the problem pointed out by the hon. Member and we have already tried to identify some small towns for development, we have found about 400 small towns with a population of one lakh to two lakhs. We think that this population should be evenly distributed throughout the country. We have identified three towns for development and for the provision of complete infrastructure so that those counter-magnets are provided in those small towns which are attracting people to the bigger cities and that, I think should be able to check the unplanned growth of smaller towns.

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR : Sir, many years ago some of these concepts were talked about and discussed and it was also decided that there should be certain broad guidelines for not only the towns, but also the villages. So many villages get washed off by the floods. They are again built in the some haphazard fashion. Would the hon. Minister please give us some idea of how soon some of these concepts can be put into practice? Any new construction should not be done in a haphazard fashion and guidelines from the Centre which have been talked of for God knows how many years—I was in charge of this Department in 1962 and from then onwards all these concepts are here, but nothing seems to have actually been put into practice. Can we hope that some of these concepts will be put into practice in the near future.

SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT : Since the hon. Member has already had the experience of being in charge of this Department, she must have given guidelines herself. But I just would like to say that again the Centre can only make suggestions or make recommendations. The things have to be carried out by the State Governments themselves. We are trying our best to make it an organised effort and that development should take place in an organised manner.

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 218.

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU : Sir, I rise on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : This is the fourth time you are rising on a point of order.

Question No. 218—The Questioner is not here. Q. No. 219—The questioner is not here. Q. No. 220 The questioner is not here. Now, Question No. 221.

Buddha's Monuments in Kushinagar

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*221. SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI:
SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY:

Will the Minister OF EDUCATION SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two of Buddha's holiest places located in Kushinagar (U.P.), the temple where Gautam Buddha attained nirvana and the giant circular stupa standing on the spot where his mortal remains were cremated are sinking because of water-logging and recurring floods in the area;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the main danger to the monuments is from the rising sub-soil water table and the year round water-logging, contributed by many small rivers and rivulets around which join the river Gandak; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to adopt sophisticated engineering techniques like the one employed in Mohanjodaro excavation sites?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE
(DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER) :

(a) There is no report of sinking of the Ramabharu stupa and the Nirvana Temple and the attached *stupa*, situated on an elevated platform at Kushinagar.

(b) In the low laying excavated remains, water-logging has been noticed which is due to seasonal rains and rise in the sub-soil water table. The accumulated water is being pumped out periodically at present.

(c) The situation, now obtaining at the site, does not warrant any sophisticated technique to be adopted, in view of the actions already taken in respect of the safety of the stupa under renovation. However, Government will take appropriate steps, when situation so warrants.

श्रीमती पार्वती देवी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जीवन्त बुद्ध से संबंधित इस पवित्र स्थान को

सुरक्षित रखने के लिए भारत सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं। इस वर्ष इस पर कितनी रकम खर्च की जायेगी? क्या इस स्मारक को बाढ़ से बचाने और इसकी स्थायी सुरक्षा के लिए सरकार ने विशेषज्ञों की राय ली है?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER:
I have already said that repairs are being done and the expenditure incurred year-wise for carrying out special repairs and maintenance of these monuments are as follows:

Year	Special Repairs	Annual Repairs
1975-76 . . .	Rs. 31,895	Rs. 13,792
1976-77 . . .	Rs. 61,039	Rs. 9,791
1977-78 . . .	Rs. 27,496	Rs. 8,743

Provision of Rs. 60,000 for special repairs and Rs. 20,000 for annual repairs has been provided in the current year.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it the opinion given by the experts?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER :
I have already said that it has been found that there is no substantial report of sinking. Because they are low-lying areas there is water-logging due to seasonal rain and the sub-soil water table is also arising.

Therefore unless some construction is made in the rivers in the neighbourhood, this danger will be there. So, maintenance and special repairs are being done.

श्रीमती पार्वती देवी : भगवान बुद्ध के जीवन से सम्बन्धित कुशीनगर संघर और स्तूप हमारे देश के संस्कृति में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखते हैं। भारत और विदेशों के लोग इन स्थानों को देखने आते हैं। स्तूप भारतीय जीवन दर्शन का प्रतीक है। सूख की बात है कि यह महत्वपूर्ण स्मारक प्रकृति की विनाश सीला का शर्ण बन रहे हैं, और विहीन होते जा रहे हैं। क्या सरकार विशेषज्ञों की सहायता से कर शकवा यूनेस्को की सहायता से इस भ्रमर कृतियों की रक्षा के लिए विचार करेंगी?