

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Fencing is required to be erected in certain selected stretches at a minimum distance of 150 yards away from the international bordered.

(b) Since the exch alignment for fencing is West Bengal is being worked out, the total area of land between the proposed fencing and border lines cannot be indicated. However, for use of land between fencing and zero line by cultivators, graziers and owners, gates are proposed to be provided in the fencing at regular intervals.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Gas Flaring at Bombay High**

3386. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up Rs. 7290 crores World Bank aided project to eliminate gas flaring at Bombay High;

(b) if so, the amount spent on the project so far;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(d) the estimated quantity of gas to be utilised after the completion of the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The Oil & Natural Gas Commission is implementing a GAS Flaring Reduction Project in the Western Offshore, which is expected to cost US\$3.2 billion. The

World Bank has sanctioned a loan of US \$ 450 million for the project.

(b) Rupees 520 crores approximately, as on 15th March, 1993.

(c) The project is expected to be completed in phases from April 1994 to February 1996.

(d) After completion of the project, the availability of gas is projected to be 57 MMSCMD from the presently level of around 32 MMSCMD.

[*Translation*]

#### **Prevention of Blindness**

3387. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blind persons at present in each State;

(b) whether the World Bank aid was received for prevention of blindness;

(c) if so, the States where this programme is being implemented; and

(d) the achievement made during the last year under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) and (c). A project seeking financial assistance from the World Bank for the control of blindness in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu has been prepared and is presently under consideration of the Bank.

The Number of cataract operations went up from 1.19 million in 1990-91 to 1.50 million in 1991-92, Steps were taken to

augment the facilities for eye care through district Mobile Units and creation of permanent facilities for eye care.

## STATEMENT

Table 1 Estimated Number of Blind persons in India

State	1 Estimated No of Blind Persons	2 Prevalence of Blindness (Per 10 000 population)
Andhra Pradesh	99531	150
Arunachal Pradesh	0558	123
Assam	298747	134
Bihar	1105137	128
Goa	23723	203
Gujarat	592911	144
Haryana	184390	113
Himachal Pradesh	44466	87
Jammu & Kashmir	216124	280
Karnataka	578003	129

State	Estimated No of Blind Persons	Prevalence of Blindness (Per 10, 000 population)
1	2	3
Kerala	3803330	131
Madhya Pradesh	1329331	201
Maharashtra	1291471	164
Manipur	11874	65
Meghalaya	3873	22
Mizoram	2608	38
Nagaland	4619	39
Orissa	542008	172
Punjab	147393	73
Rajasthan	982926	224
Sikkim	1825	45

State	Estimated No of Blind Persons	Prevalence of Blindness (Per 10, 000 population)
1	2	3
Tamil Nadu	918032	165
Tripura	32389	118
Uttar Pradesh	2196692	158
West Bengal	652634	96
Andaman & Nicobar	1870	67
Chandigarh	12110	189
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2062	149
Daman & Diu	1511	149
Delhi	59034	63
Lakshdweep	460	89
Pondicherry	12025	149
India	12580431	149