

project estimates. The question of centre financing rehabilitation of Villagers does not arise.

National Water Management Project

1604. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken up with the assistance of the World Bank a new project "The National Water Management Project" ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The project envisages preparation of operational plans for reliable and equitable distribution of water over the entire Command, close linkage between the cropping pattern and water distribution below the outlet and increased involvement of farmers in water distribution.

[Translation]

Additional Air service from Ranchi to Bombay

1605. SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Ranchi has developed into a very big industrial town and a number of factories including Tatanagar and Chandil sponge factory have been set up around this town ;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce an additional air service from Ranchi to Bombay ; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At present Indian Airlines has no proposal to introduce additional air service from Ranchi to Bombay. Passengers desirous of travelling from Ranchi to Bombay have convenient connection at Patna on Indian Airlines B-737, four days a week, Flight No. IC-295 (Calcutta-Patna-Ahmedabad-Bombay).

Survey of New Railway Line from Ranchi to Hazaribagh-Koderma

1606. SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether survey work for laying another new broad gauge line from Ranchi to Hazaribagh-Koderma has been completed and if so, the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Yes, Sir. An Engineering-cum-Traffic survey of three segments of rail line from Ranchi to Giridih via Hazaribagh and Koderma (294 Kms) has been carried out. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 262.47 crores and it is financially unremunerative.

[English]

Subanshiri Hydro Project

1607. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 400 crores has been sanctioned for Subanshiri Hydro Electric Project prepared by the Brahmaputra Board ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Arunachal Pradesh Government has not yet given clearance for the execution of the work ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) The Project is still under examination from techno-economic angle as well as from forest, environment and ecological angles by the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and has not yet been formally referred for clearance to the Arunachal Pradesh Government.

[Translation]

Declaration of Ancient Monuments as Religious Places

1608. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ancient monuments declared as religious places since 1985-86 to date and number of such monuments where restrictions have been imposed; and

(b) whether offering of 'namaz' in the historical ruins of Ferozeshah Kotla is prohibited and if so, since when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) None, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Since 1913 when the monument Kotla Firoz Shah was declared as a protected monument at which point of time the mosque was not in worship.

Preservation of Archaeological Monuments and Manuscripts

1609. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the annual expenditure being incurred on the maintenance and preservation of important archaeological places and ancient manuscripts by the Archaeological Survey of India ;

(b) whether Government propose to take effective steps to improve the dilapidated condition of these archaeological places after getting them inspected/surveyed by an Expert Committee or a Committee of eminent Public men ; if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the action taken to check smuggling of ancient idols and to improve the dilapidated condition of museum ;

(d) the financial assistance received from International Organisations for the preservation of ancient monuments during the last three years alongwith the details of its utilization ; and

(e) the details of the monuments for which grants have been sought for from international organisations during the current year and the details of the amounts granted by them ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Expenditure of Rs. 414.71 lakhs was incurred in 1985-86 and a provision of Rs. 667.60 lakhs has been made by the Archaeological Survey of India in 1986-87, for the maintenance and preservation of centrally protected monuments and sites. The Archaeological Survey of India does not maintain and preserve manuscripts except those in its Site Museums.

(b) Officers of the Archaeological Survey of India regularly inspect the monuments/sites under Central protection and draw up programmes to preserve these. Committees of Experts have been constituted, as considered necessary, for important monuments like Taj Mahal, Ajanta, Jagannath Puri to advise the Archaeological Survey of India periodically for the preservation of these monuments.

(c) Action taken to check smuggling of ancient idols in the centrally protected monuments is detailed in the statement given below. The Archeological Survey of India maintains site museums which are in sound condition.