

- (b) the reasons for delay in clearing the scheme;
- (c) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be approved;
- (d) whether the Government are trying to obtain financial assistance from World Bank for this scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the source of funding the same?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme was examined in Central Water Commission (CWC) and Government of Maharashtra was asked to reformulate the scheme considering certain technical observations. Government of Maharashtra has not yet submitted the revised scheme to CWC.

(c) No definite time frame can be indicated at present in view of the revision of the project and the clearances required to be furnished by the State Government.

(d) to (f). Government of Maharashtra has submitted the scheme "Bombay IV Middle Vaitarne Water Supply Project" costing about Rs. 570 crores to the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for posing the project to World Bank for assistance. The matter is under correspondence between Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment and Government of Maharashtra regarding clearances from various agencies.

China's Sale of Nuclear Equipment to Pak

2389. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN :
 PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
 PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the Hindustan Times dated October 10, 1996 captioned as "China sells N-equipment to Pak" and also in The Hindu dated October 10, 1996, captioned as "China sold more N-arms tech. to Pak";

(b) if so, the details of China's sale of nuclear equipment to Pakistan and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken to meet the threat?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has seen news reports on the transfer of nuclear equipment by China to Pakistan.

(b) and (c). Government are fully aware of the clandestine nature of Pakistan's nuclear weapon

programme. The security situation of India is constantly under review particularly in the light of developments in the neighbourhood. Government continues to take all necessary measures designed to cope with any threat that may be posed to the security of the nation.

Repair of NHs in Delhi

2390. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of National Highways passing through Delhi State;

(b) whether these National Highways are in a dilapidated condition due to lack of repairs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Five National Highways are passing through National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) to (d). All these National Highways are being maintained in traffic-worthy condition within available resources.

Pilgrimage Abroad

2391. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pilgrims, who had visited various religious places abroad during each of the last three years, religious place-wise;

(b) the criteria being adopted for their selection, religious place-wise;

(c) the financial/logistical/organisational assistance being provided to the pilgrims, religious place-wise; and

(d) the number of pilgrims likely to visit these religious places during 1997?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The number of pilgrims for various pilgrimages abroad during past three years is as under (These figures do not include pilgrims going through private tour operators) :

	1994	1995	1996
Haj pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia	25,685	30,503	50,346
Sikh and Sehejdhari Jathas to Pakistan	5,380	5,210	5,085
Kailash Mansarovar Yatra	370	350	435

(b) For Haj pilgrims, State-wise quota is fixed on the basis of the Muslim population in each State/Union Territory. Selection is made on the basis of applications received by the State Haj Committees through Qurrah (lottery). However, during Haj-95 and Haj-96, all pilgrims wishing to go for Haj have been accommodated.

2. For the Sikhs/Sehejdhari Hindu jathas visiting holy shrines in Pakistan, the lists are prepared by various Sikh/Shadani Darbar/Hindu organisations and are forwarded to this Ministry through respective State Governments for facilitation issue of visa by Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi.

3. For Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, advertisements in newspapers, TV and radio are released by this Ministry in February every year inviting applications which are compiled on first-come-first-served basis. Since this pilgrimage is tortuous, applicants are required to be physically and mentally fit and submit a set of medical reports in this regard. They are also required to undertake a medical check-up in New Delhi and in Gunji, Uttar Pradesh, before being permitted to undertake the Yatra, across border in Chinese territory.

(c) Government of India subsidised travel of pilgrims to Saudi Arabia for the Haj as under :

1994	Rs. 24.69 crores
1995	Rs. 17.95 crores
1996	Rs. 42.02 crores

In addition, Government sponsored administrative and medical (doctors and para-medics) contingents to Saudi Arabia and despatched from India medicines and attendant facilities such as ambulances, camp dispensaries etc. to attend to the needs of the Haj pilgrims.

2. In case of the Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas from India to Pakistan, no financial assistance is provided as the expenses involved are affordable. But the Government provides assistance in issuance of visa, issue of foreign exchange through RBI, special train services for the pilgrims, both for onward and return journeys, and attaches a Liaison Officer from the High Commission of India, Islamabad with the visiting Jathas who renders assistance to the pilgrims when the pilgrims contact for any kind of help.

3. In 1996, Government provided a subsidy of Rs. 3250/- per pilgrim to the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) towards board, lodge and transport arrangements. Besides, Government has been providing air evacuation facility in cooperation with Air Force in case of life threatening situation for the pilgrims and pays an annual charge of US \$ 7000/- to the Chinese side for the maintenance of wireless communication link between India and Tibet for the duration of the Yatra. For every batch of 25 to 35 pilgrims, one Liaison Officer is attached at Government cost to look after the welfare of the pilgrims.

(d) It is estimated that the number of pilgrims in 1997 for various pilgrimages abroad would equal if not exceed, the 1996 figures.

Allocation of Funds to IIM, Bangalore

2392. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation made to Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the activities of the Indian Institute of Management have come to a stand-still due to financial constraints;

(c) if so, whether IIM, Bangalore has sought higher budgetary support.

(d) whether the IIM, Bangalore has sought permission to float educational bonds; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA)

(a) An amount of Rs. 962.00 lakh has been released during 1995-96 and the budgetary allocation during 1996-97 is Rs. 693.00 lakh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal of the IIM Bangalore seeking permission to float educational bonds.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Urdu University

2393. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made towards the establishment of the proposed Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Urdu University;

(b) the allocation made and expenditure incurred on the University Project so far; and

(c) the date by which the University is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA)

(a) to (c) The Bill to establish and incorporate the Maulana Azad National Urdu University at Hyderabad has since been passed by the Rajya Sabha and is now pending consideration by the Lok Sabha.