

mary health centres, etc, in order to draw-up comprehensive plans for eradicating diseases from the tribal areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) General health surveys have been conducted in certain community development blocks which covered tribal areas also.

(b) In so far as major diseases like malaria, small-pox, cholera etc., are concerned, the national programmes for their eradication cover tribal areas also. As regards surveys for other diseases which may be peculiar to certain tribal blocks, information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Implementation of Indo-Pak Agreement on communication links

1483 **SHRI P. R. SHENOY** Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state the steps taken to implement the terms of Agreement reached between India and Pakistan regarding communications, telecommunications, and trade by both the countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): The Agreements on Exchange of Postal articles and Tele-communication have become operative with effect from the 18th October, 1974. Talks between India and Pakistan are expected to be held shortly to discuss the resumption of trade, while the talks on civil aviation matters have commenced in Islamabad on the 18th November, 1974.

Loss of money and man power in overhaul division of HAL

1484 **SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:** Will the Minister of **DEFENCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the overhaul division of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

in Bangalore and its branch factory at Barrackpore are likely to face idle labour situation due to no work orders and having no additional or alternative projects;

(b) whether the overhaul division had become gradually reduced resulting in idling of the Productive workers; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to feed and provide the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited with sufficient work orders from time to time to avoid heavy losses of money and man power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Overhaul Division of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (Bangalore Complex) and its Branch factory at Barrackpore have at present sufficient work load for next 2-3 years. However, due to non-availability/delay in receipt of spares from abroad, small pockets of idle labour sometimes arise.

(b) Due to closure of some out-station maintenance bases, workload in overhaul division has come down to some extent.

(c) Action is in hand to provide additional workload for the Overhaul Division by transferring certain work from the Aircraft Division. Overhaul of Carribou Aircraft has already been transferred to Barrackpore Factory. Further measures are under consideration.

Development plans of Sikkim

1485 **SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:** Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state the salient features of the development plans of Sikkim and the amount earmarked thereof by Indian Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): Detailed

information on the development plans of Pickett and the funds earmarked for this purpose by the Government of India was provided in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3239 in the Lok Sabha on the 22nd August, 1974. The attention of the Hon'ble Members is invited to the answers to that question.

Improvement in Welfare of Labourers in Gujarat

1480 SHRI P M MEHTA Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether after imposition of President's rule in the State of Gujarat, the welfare of the labourers in the State has not improved,

(b) whether there is discontentment in the labour force in the State and

(c) whether his Ministry is considering to send any team of experts to help the labour force in the State for their improvement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA). (a) According to the information obtained from the Government of Gujarat, the welfare of labourers in Gujarat has improved during the President's rule. The following measures have been taken by that Government:—

(i) Amendment Act regarding Tripartite Contributions for welfare of labourers has been brought into force with effect from 30-1-1974 and its first instalment for the period ending on 30-3-1974 has been fully recovered from employers and employees.

(ii) Two more cinema units have been started during the last six months and there were 134 shows by which six lakh workers were benefited.

(iii) Two sub-centres of Shishu Vihars have been started and

age for admission has been extended from 3 to 12 years.

(iv) Number of Balvadis has been increased from 19 to 40

(v) Grant-in-aid to Shishu Mandirs and Balvadis has been substantially increased

(vi) There was All Gujarat Works Garba Competition in November, 1974 and participants of first ten garbas have been given prizes for the first time worth Rs 6000 to Rs 8000 by obtaining donations from employers

(b) Not to our knowledge, Sir

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry at present

Central Road Board

1487. SHRI G Y. KRISHNAN Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether any proposal was approved by the Planning Commission to set up a Central Road Board for construction of Roads in the country, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Scheme for Naval Research Development and Laboratories

1488 SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed any scheme for the Naval Research Development Laboratories during the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?