

from the District Collector, Agra for reopening of the Taj Mahal for close viewing by moonlight.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Hostels for the Youth

216. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Youth Hostels set up, State-wise;

(b) the facilities made available by the Government to these Hostels; and

(c) the number of people benefited by these in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARTI) : (a) The State-wise list of Youth Hostels is given in the statement attached.

(b) Youth Hostels are established as a joint venture between the Department of Youth Affairs & Sports and the State Governments. While the Central Government bears the cost of construction, the State Governments provide fully developed land free of cost, with water and electricity connections, approach road to the site of the hostel and accommodation for the essential staff. They also bear the initial operational cost of the hostel. A sum of Rs. 1,60,000/- is provided by the Central Government for furniture/ furnishing.

(c) A large number of youth travelling on their educational excursions, youth exchange programmes, integration camps and various other youth activities are immensely benefited by these Hostels which provide accommodation at reasonable rate with basic amenities required.

Statement

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Youth Hostels Completed and Taken over by State Govts.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	3
4.	Bihar	1

1	2	3
5.	Gujarat	1
6.	Haryana	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
9.	Karnataka	3
10.	Kerala	3
11.	Maharashtra	1
12.	Manipur	2
13.	Meghalaya	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2
15.	Nagaland	2
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Punjab	3
18.	Rajasthan	2
19.	Tamil Nadu	4
20.	Uttar Pradesh	4
21.	A & N Island	1
22.	West Bengal	1
23.	Pondicherry	1
24.	Tripura	1
25.	Orissa	4
26.	Goa	2
27.	Sikkim	1
Total		56

[English]

Destruction of Chopals

217. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of chopals set ablaze in several parts of the country since December, 1998, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have arrested the culprits responsible for destroying the chopals;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to protect the chopals from miscreants?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) According to the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. As such, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The information sought in the question in regard to the incidents of destruction of 'chopals' and persons arrested in connection therewith is not maintained at the Central level.

[Translation]

Demolishing of Buildings in Delhi

218. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of buildings have been demolished without notice in Delhi during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor, zone-wise;

(c) whether applications for compensation have been received by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

219. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Honourable Members have requested the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers several times regarding the fact that entire Bhopal has been affected by the Union Carbide Gas;

(b) if so, whether such proposals have been sent by the erstwhile Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not declaring entire Bhopal a gas affected area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) :

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) In 1985, on the basis of detailed surveys, the State Government had declared 36 wards of Bhopal as gas affected area. In studies conducted, based on mortality and morbidity figures, the ICMR sub-categorized the 36 wards as severely affected, moderately affected and mildly affected. The matter of inclusion of additional wards was examined in consultation with the State Govt. and it was decided that this issue will not be pursued further.

[English]

Dilapidated Condition of Deewan-e-Aam and Deewan-e-Khas

220. DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the dilapidated condition of Deewan-e-Aam and Deewan-e-Khas of the historical Lal Quila;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government to its repair and maintenance;

(d) the amount spent on the maintenance during the last three years; and

(e) the future plan of expenditure proposed by the Government for the proper maintenance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The monuments called Deewan-e-Aam and Deewan-e-Khas in the Lal Quila, Delhi are in a fairly good state of preservation and under regular maintenance and upkeep. In addition, their environs are also well developed and maintained.

(d) The expenditure incurred on the conservation of these two monuments during last three years is as under :-

1995-96	Rs. 59,544/-
1996-97	Rs. 4,75,225/-
1997-98	Rs. 1,44,058/-

(e) The future expenditure on these monuments would depend upon their actual requirements for maintenance and conservation, subject to the availability of funds.