

(c) whether the Government propose to study different problems; and

(d) if so, the other steps being taken to ensure constructive participation of women in the Panchayati Raj System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (d) The provision of 33% reservation for women is being adhered to by all the States and Union Territories where elections have been held. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have however been advised by the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment to be vigilant to the possibility of women Sarpanches being removed by passing no confidence motions against them.

#### Sewerage Schemes for Uttar Pradesh

1273. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have submitted some schemes to Union Government for sanction and financial assistance for the improvement in sewerage system of urban/suburban areas;

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

(c) the names of the cities/suburban areas of Uttar Pradesh where these schemes have been introduced; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be sanctioned and the reasons for delay in disposing of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Sanitation being a State subject, it is responsibility of the State Governments to plan and execute sanitation programmes. Under the Central plan, there is no Centrally sponsored Scheme to provide financial assistance to the State Governments for improvement of sewerage systems of urban/suburban areas. However, as per available information, Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has sanctioned 43 sewerage schemes in the country, at an estimated project cost of Rs. 502.07 crores, involving loan assistance of Rs. 283.89 crores.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

[English]

#### Rail-Cum-Road Bridge Over Kamala River in Bihar

1274. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road-cum-railway bridge over Kamla river between Sakari and Jhanjharpur in Bihar is dangerous to road users:

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to either widen this Road-cum-Rail bridge or to make a separate road independent of the railway bridge there:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) It was a temporary bridge provided by Railway for their own use during construction of Railway line between Jhanjharpur and Lokha Bazar in 1973 but could not be demolished on completion of Railway work in 1977 at Bihar Govt's request. State Govt. has not yet provided separate road bridge even after several requests. It is entirely State Govt's responsibility. Railway wants to remove the existing decking but neither the public nor the State Govt. is allowing to do so.

#### Operation of Airbus from Cochin Airport

1275. SHRI V.M.SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government constituted a Committee to look into all the aspects regarding operation of airbus from Cochin Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its final report to the Government with any definite conclusion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Committee was set up to assess whether Airbus A-320 operations to Cochin airport could be carried out safely. This Committee had representatives from Indian Airlines, Director General of Civil Aviation, Central Training Establishment, Hyderabad and Airports Authority of India. The Committee concluded that in view of the limited runway length, unidirectional operations and weather conditions, Airbus A-320 operation to Cochin could be permitted provided certain conditions were met. The matter has accordingly been taken up with Indian Airlines, Airports Authority of India, Naval Authorities and Government of Kerala.