

क्या या जोर उसके पश्चात् भूमि को समतल करने का कार्य पूरा नहीं किया गया;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि जमीन को समतल करने का कार्य को पूरा न किये जाने के परिणामस्वरूप पाइप लाइनें टूट गई हैं और पापी के चारों ओर से रिसने के कारण मलैरिया, पीलिया और कालाजार आदि जैसे विभिन्न रोग फैल गये हैं; और

(ङ) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार ने अब तक क्या उपचारी कदम उठाये हैं ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री प्रमून सिंह) :

(क) सरकार को बिहार में गंगा के जल से हुए प्रदूषण के परिणामस्वरूप किसी भी प्रकार की महामारी होने की जानकारी नहीं है ।

(ख) गंगा कार्य योजना के अंतर्गत गंगा नदी के प्रदूषण के निवारण के लिए बिहार में (एक लाख से अधिक जनसंख्या वाले) श्रेणी I के 4 नगरों के लिए 45 स्कीमें स्वीकृत की गई हैं । इनमें से 35 स्कीमें अब तक पूरी हो चुकी हैं और शेष 9 स्कीमों में कार्य प्रगति पर है ।

(ग) और (घ) जी, नहीं ।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Remarks by Western countries on Narmada Sagar and other projects

1383. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :  
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-  
KANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during his recent visits to Finland, Germany and England he sternly deprecated some western countries' remarks about the Narmada Sagar and other projects as interference in India's internal affairs;

(b) if so, the details of the remarks and reservations referred to by him indicating source and content of the remarks; and

(c) what is the respective Governments' reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Narmada issue also figured in the wide ranging discussions during the recent visit to Finland, Germany and United Kingdom. The Indian stand that "Right to Development" is one of the most basic human rights was reiterated and it was made clear that while technical help and constructive suggestions for environmental protection will be appreciated, it would be difficult to tolerate outside interference in projects which form part of the national goals and priorities of the Government of India.

The United Kingdom and German delegation appreciated India's stand point.

#### Botanical Gardens

1384. DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the deteriorating conditions of the Botanical Gardens in the country;

(b) what measures are being taken for their development and preservation; and

(c) what is the annual expenditure being incurred on the Botanical gardens ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) No serious deterioration has been observed in the botanical gardens in the country. However, environmental pollution is a source of damage to plants in the gardens particularly in the industrialised metropolitan areas.

(b) and (c) The botanic gardens under the control of the Botanical Survey of India are being developed through enrichment of new introductions of rare and endemic plants and developing orchidaria, green houses, tissue culture laboratories and seed banks. In addition, a scheme for providing assistance to the Botanic Gardens and Field Centres for the conservation and propagation of endemic, rare and endangered plants has been taken up to

improve the facilities of the Botanic Gardens in the country. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 27.59 lakhs has been released so far during the current financial year.

#### National Museum of Natural History

1385. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who visit the National Museum of Natural History annually;

(b) the number of school and college students who visit the museum;

(c) whether Government have any plan to improve and expand the museum on the lines of the museum in the UK and the USA; and

(d) what are the details of research papers produced by the staff of the museum during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) The approximate number of persons who visit the National Museum of Natural History annually is around 3 lakhs.

(b) The number of school and college students who visit the museum is approximately 2/3rd of the total visitors, i.e. around 2 lakhs.

(c) The exhibition (Permanent and temporary) and educational programmes of the National Museum of Natural History depict various aspects of the natural history of our country. The museum has a large number of programmes for college students, school children, family groups, handicapped children and the general public. Outreach activities for the rural areas, army units, resettlement colonies and school loan service mobile museum are also undertaken. These activities of the National museum of Natural History are in no way inferior to the exhibitions and educational activities conducted by the museums of UK and USA.

(d) The thrust area of the museum is on imparting non-formal education in the fields

of environment and conservation. The scientists of the museum are involved in research relevant to environmental education and also on various museological aspects such as preservation, visitor evaluation studies, exhibit design and display, etc.

The senior Scientists of the National Museum of Natural History have presented various papers in national and international seminars on the subjects listed above. Details are given in the statement enclosed.

#### Statement

The role of Natural History Museums : Past, Present and Future—*Journal of Indian Museum*, Vol. XXVI, 1989.

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Social Accountability of Museums—*Proceedings of the ICOM-Asia Seminar* at the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, March 1990.

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Museums and Community Service—*Proceedings of the National Seminar on Museum Movement in India*. Indian Museum, Calcutta, October 1990.

Regional Museums, *Journal of Indian Museums*, Vol. XLVII, 1991.

Processes of Exhibit and Programme Development in Natural History Museums, *Report of the IX Indo-US Natural History Workshop*, U.S.A. 1992.

Museums in School Education, *Sanskriti Darshan*, North Central zone Cultural Centre, Ahmedabad, 1991.

Curriculum enrichment through Museum Education, *Journal of Indian Museums*, Vol. XLVIII, 1991.

The Great one-Horned Rhinoceros, the *India Magazine* Vol. XII, 1992.

A Museum devoted to Environmental Education, *Studies of Museology*, Vol. XVI-XXV, 1981—91.