

progress. For remaining 11 bridges in Karnataka, proposal for rehabilitation forwarded by the State PWD were not found to be as per site requirements and the State PWD has been requested to modify the proposal to be in line with the site requirements. The modified proposals have not been received.

(b) These bridges are very old, constructed about 50 years back, and being very close to the sea, are exposed to saline conditions. The plying of overloaded vehicles on these bridges has also contributed towards the distressed condition of these bridges.

(c) and (d) There is a provision of Rs. 2.00 crores in the Annual Plan 2006-07 for the rehabilitation of distressed bridges. The time for completion will be known after the sanction of proposals.

#### **Earth Station at Gulbarga and Belgaum**

1153. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up of an Earth Station and Incubation Centre in Gulbarga and Belgaum is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the final decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) to (c) Government of Karnataka had requested for setting up of two Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) centres at Gulbarga and Belgaum. Government of India has agreed for setting up of STPI centre at Gulbarga.

For setting up of STPI centre at Gulbarga, the State Government has to make available 3 acres of land, 10,000 sq. ft. of built up space and a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1 crore to STPI.

#### **Work contracts to outside contractors in Assam**

1154. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work contracts in Assam are given to outside contractors who in turn give sub-contracts to the local people for the execution of works;

(b) if so, the reasons for work contracts not being given by NBCC to the local contractors from Assam; and

(c) the present status of the project works undertaken by NBCC in Assam?