

around Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka), the tiger States have been advised regarding preventive and control measures. A single case of death of Bonnet Macaque (*Macaca radiata*) due to Kyasanur Forest Disease was reported during the summer of 2013 in the Bandipur Tiger Reserve of Karnataka. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, Central assistance is provided to tiger States, which, *inter alia*, includes funding support for prophylactic immunization against diseases communicable to the wildlife.

Construction of new bridges in NCR

†*539. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal for construction of new bridges near Kalindi Kunj (Delhi-Noida) and (Delhi-Faridabad) Okhla-Kalindi bypass project is under the consideration of Government; if so, the details of said projects;
- (b) the details of outlay of the said projects; and
- (c) the time by which the work on this is likely to be started, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU):

(a) The proposal for construction of Kalindi bypass from Noida toll bridge near Maharani Bagh to Badarpur Border has been approved in principle by Delhi Development Authority and United Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure (Planning and Engineering) Centre (UTTIPEC).

Another proposal for construction of second bridge over Yamuna River near Kalindi Kunj (Kalindi Kunj-Noida) has not yet been approved by DDA/UTTIPEC.

- (b) The project cost has not yet been firmed up.
- (c) The process of obtaining approval from the various authorities has been initiated.

High speed trains

†*540. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether final decision to run high speed trains between Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Panipat and Delhi-Alwar has been taken;
- (b) if so, by when these high speed trains are likely to be operated;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Ministry also proposes to run high speed trains from Delhi to Moradabad and Agra in future;

(d) if so, by when a decision would be taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) has informed that New Delhi-Agra is one of the nine routes announced in the Rail Budget 2014-15 for raising of train speed to 160/200 kmph. There is no proposal to run high speed trains from Delhi to Moradabad.

(e) Does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Utilization of thorium

3846. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), has so far established 11.93 million tons of monazite (Thorium bearing mineral) in the country, which contains about 1.07 million tons of thorium, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps that are being taken to address the utilization of thorium in different types of reactors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. India has abundant quantity of thorium resources contained in the mineral monazite occurring in the beach sand placer deposits along the eastern and western coasts of the country as well as the inland placers in parts of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) through its Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) has carried out exploration activities over the past six decades, which have resulted in establishing *in situ* resources of 11.93 million tonnes of