

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The proposed highway is a State road under the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

Shri Bal Raj Madhok: Since a road to Kashmir is not only the concern of the State of Jammu and Kashmir but of India as a whole, why did the Government not consider the suggestion to have a road which is strategically away from the cease-fire line and a road which can be used all the year round as this road will be closed for six months of the year?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I hope the hon. Member is aware of the constitutional position under which we are responsible only for the national highways and not for State highways. This happens to be a project which will fall within the purview and definition of "State highways". We have not considered it fit enough to be a national highway for the present.

Koyna Project

***180. Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is delay in commissioning the generators of Koyna Project according to schedule; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delay in commissioning the generators of the Koyna Project is due to the replacement of 220 KV cables of the first two machines which when laid and tested were found faulty. Some delay also occurred due to early onset of heavy rains in cables of the first two machines which caused a heavy land slide blocking the quarry at Adit and hampering the progress of work.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Ammonium Sulphate for Tea Industry

***158. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of sulphate of ammonia demanded by the Indian Tea Industry to meet its requirements during the year 1961;

(b) how much of this chemical fertilizer was actually made available to the Tea Industry during that year; and

(c) how far the short supply has affected the out-put of tea during the year?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Demand for 1961 manuring season was 1,06,428 tonnes of Sulphate of Ammonia, besides other types of fertilisers equivalent to 83,353 tonnes of Sulphate of Ammonia.

(b) 81,021 tonnes of Sulphate of Ammonia and other fertilisers equivalent to 45,489 tonnes of Sulphate of Ammonia i.e. approximately 91 per cent of demand was actually made available to the Tea Industry.

(c) The output of tea in 1961 reached an all-time record of 770 million lbs.

Sukinda-Pradeep Express Highway in Orissa

***161. Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money so far sanctioned for the construction of Sukinda-Pradeep 'Express Highway' in Orissa;

(b) the progress made up to date with regard to the construction of this Highway; and

(c) how long it will take to complete the road project?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The proposed Sukinda-Pradeep Express