

**Widening of NH.5**

\*465. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:  
SHRI V. SOBHANA-  
DREESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in widening the Cuttack-Bhubaneswar and Vijayawada-Guntur sections of National Highway No 5 into four lanes;

(b) the funds earmarked for the projects; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Four-laning of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar section is to be taken up with World Bank assistance under the Second National Highway Loan which has already been signed. Prequalification of contractors is in progress in consultation with the Bank, after which bidding for the project will start. Meanwhile, the project has been approved in principle for Rs. 126.74 crores.

Four-laning of Vijayawada-Guntur section will depend on inter-se priority of various projects on all-India basis and availability of funds for four-laning during 8th Plan. Due to constraint of funds, it is too early to say when this four-laning will be sanctioned.

**Export of Woolen Carpets**

\*466. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:  
DR. RAMESHCHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foreign exchange earnings from the export of hand-knitted

woollen carpets during 1991-92 and 1992-93 so far; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to boost their export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The details of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand-knotted woollen carpets during 1991-92 and 1992-93 (April-June, 92) are as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Foreign Exchange earned in Rupees crores (Provisional)</i>
1991-92	628.58
1992-93 (April-June)	148.60

(b) A number of steps have been taken to boost the export of hand knotted woollen carpets. Some of these are: provision of duty draw-back, facility for import of carpets grade wool, support to Carpet Export Promotion Council for external publicity including participation in foreign fairs. Triple weightage is given to net foreign exchange earnings from the export of carpet for the purpose of recognition as an export house/trading house.

**Handloom Projects**

\*467. PROF. RITA VERMA:  
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.  
TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have selected some States for the development of handloom projects under the International Fund for Agriculture Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details of the handloom