

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply the hon. Minister has stated that the National Development Council has not discussed the matter regarding release of funds to states for development of National Highways. Would the hon. Minister tell how many proposals, with regard to constructing National Highways, have been received so far from the Government of Maharashtra since 1985. My second question is that no new National Highway has been constructed in Maharashtra for the last 6-7 years. With the result great difficulties are being faced with regard to traffic management and development of the area. What is the reason for not constructing even a single national highway in Maharashtra. The third question is whether the Government have received any proposal from Maharashtra Government regarding National Highway No. 11. If so, when will you take the decision in that regard?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first thing is that the Minister of Maharashtra Government never raised this matter in the meeting of National Development Council. He has raised the other issues there.

[English]

Central assistance to the State Plan and right to work to be introduced as a fundamental right in the Constitution. Your Minister never raised the issue which you want to raise now. I would like to point out that 11 proposals for declaration as a National Highway in Maharashtra were given by the State Government. All these proposals can be considered once I know what is the budget allocation for that.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, besides this my second suggestion is that the National Highways and the roads which are narrow, need to be widened, e.g., National Highway No.

13 which passes through Solapur to Bijapur. It is very narrow road and the traffic on it is heavy. Generally accidents occur during rainy days. Therefore, it is needs to be widened. Has the Hon. Minister has received any proposal from the State Government in this regard?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to enlighten the hon. Member that there is no such proposal pending with us. I would request the hon. Member to ask the State Government to submit the proposal. Keeping in view of funds available with us we may consider it only after receiving the proposal from the State Government.

[English] 18

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK : May I know from the hon. Minister the total contribution of Maharashtra towards the Central Road Fund during the last two years as well as the grant of funds to Maharashtra out of this Central Road Fund for the development of roads during the last two years?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I do not have the figures for the last two years. But I can tell him that the total Central Road Fund in respect of Maharashtra, right up to March, 1990 was Rs. 4416.06 lakhs, out of which for approved scheme, it was Rs. 3960.57 lakhs. I still have some balance of Rs. 455.49 lakhs which I will be using for the new scheme.

18-24
Involvement of Private Sector in Road Construction

*374. SHRI HANNAM MOLLAH+ ; PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH } : Will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to involve private sector in road construction;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to involve the private sector in the development of National Highways. One of the pre-requisites for involving private sector in road construction is an amendment of the National Highway Act, 1956 to provide for levy of fee on National Highway sections, which is yet to be done.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Sir the Government is privatising everything. Probably, the Government itself will be privatised. Now they are looking at the roads... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Already they have been privatised. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : They are involving the private sector to construct the national highways. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, when they participate in the construction, what will be the ownership of the road and what will be the right of the people who use the road? What safeguard will be given to the public to use that road? (*Interruptions*) Secondly, what is the particular aspect in that amendment?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : The amendment is still to go to the Cabinet and then I will bring it to the House. I am trying to bring it in this session. Once the Cabinet clears it, I will come out with the proposal. I would like to inform the hon. Member about all these proposals and the points which he is raising. I will make sure that we take into consideration that.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : What about the first part of the question? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : How much the banks will contribute as also the private finance?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I will be able to tell you once the Cabinet clears the proposal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : But have you not thought about it?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I have thought about it. But I would like to come to this House once the Cabinet clears it.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : I would like to know whether the foreign capital also will be invited to participate in this private sector. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is also under consideration.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : It is not under consideration. Anybody who wants to come and participate in our development is most welcome. But he will have to adhere to all the rules and regulations of the country. We will not relax anything which should harm our nation.

SHRI PAVAN KUMAR BANSAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the intended privatisation would be limited to the starting of new roads or would it extend to the existing roads. Also by what time, would he take steps to see that the poor running of the National Highway Number One from Delhi to Amritsar, is completed.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would not have the answer of the last part of the question.

SHRI PAVAN KUMAR BANSAL : What about the first part?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We would like them to undertake to the roads which will be recommended by the State Governments and also to the present national highways which are not in a very good condition. Well, I do not have that kind of money to repair them and maintain them. If somebody comes and wants to help us in this development, I would be happy to welcome him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will that include Bridges also?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Yes.

SHRI E. AHMED : I would like to know whether the Government has any comprehensive scheme to construct the bridges on the national high way 47 and national highway 17. The Government was not able to provide sufficient funds due to paucity of funds. In view of this, whether the Government would also consider to get the private parties involved in the construction of the bridges on the national highways.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir I will consider it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : When the private sector is considered to construct the road, will the private sector be given ownership over the land on which the road will be constructed? This is part A.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : How can it be given?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That is for the Minister to answer and not for you.

The second part of it is that the private sector is not a homogenous one. We are told that there is a village sector; there is a tiny sector; there is a small scale sector; there is a large scale sector and MRTP sector etc. Now, my question is: will each of these sectors be considered for construction of roads and make profit out of it?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Anybody who comes forward to construct the roads for us is most welcome and I would like to inform the hon. Member that the ownership of the land will never be given to anybody.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The real estate has been offered to the NRIs by the Finance Minister. They can have the real estate and they can construct the road.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The real estate has been offered to the NRIs.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : It is just not possible for anybody to come and buy such a big piece of land and then make profit out of it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : But possibility is there for the NRIs.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would like to inform you that though there is a possibility, I would not allow them to be the owners.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : The hon. Minister was pleased to reply to a supplementary "that it depends on the availability of funds". I had referred to National Highway No. 1 and an amount of Rs. 53 crores was advanced by the World Bank. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is a specific question. He may not have the information with him. This is exactly what he said while replying to one of the questions put earlier.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Sir, it is a specific question because a sum of Rs. 53 crores was advanced by the World Bank for completion of 80 Kms of road beginning from..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is a question on allowing private persons to construct the roads. From that, you are going to a specific question and the Minister may not have the information with him. Anyway, you put the question and if the Minister has any information with him, he will reply to it.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : My simple question is regarding the completion of work on four-laning on National Highway 1 i.e. from Murthal to Western Jamuna canal—a length of 80 Kms. Though a loan amount of Rs. 53 crores was advanced by the World Bank, it is lying incomplete and for the last 2½ years there is no progress in the work. May I know from the Minister whether the work is likely to begin in the near future, if so, by what time it is likely to be completed ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I had informed the hon. Members that I will not give it up and I will certainly look into this.

SHRI SOBHANADRESWARA RAO VADDE : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he had received any proposals for the construction of bridges on the river Krishna? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He may not be having the information with him. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SOBHANADRESWARA RAO VADDE : I would like to know from the Minister whether he has any proposal for the construction of bridge on the river Krishna in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I do not have any specific answer for this specific question. I have a lot of proposals from different companies with me who would like to go into construction.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK : I welcome the Government's attitude towards involving the private sector in road construction. But at the same time I would like to know from the hon. Minister, as the Government is planning to amend the National Highways Act, 1956 to involve the private sector, what are the objectives behind involving the private sector, whether it will be restricted only to profit making by the private sector or will it ensure better roads and roads in the neglected backward areas.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I think both the things will come in this.

SHRI CHANDRA JEEL YADAV : It seems that the Government is going all out for privatisation and we seem to have entered into an era of privatisation. My question firstly is whether the Government has considered the aspect that no private sector will come to construct the roads unless they have a good margin of profit. Ultimately that burden will have to be borne by the common people, by those who want to use the roads. They will impose certain kind of road toll and bridge toll and all these things. Has the Government considered the aspect as to how much burden is

going to be put on the common man? Secondly, I would like to know whether the Government is also thinking to employ certain well known agencies to run certain parts of the Government also.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I don't think I can answer this question.

2425 Textile
Production of Janata Cloth

*376. **SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO** : Will the Minister of **TEXTILES** be pleased to state :

- the target fixed for the production of Janata Cloth per year; and
- the extent to which the target has been achieved during the last three years; year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b) The targets fixed and the achievements made in the production of handloom janata cloth in the country during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as under :—

(In million square metres)

Year	Target fixed	Production achieved
1988-89	560	419.57
1989-90	600	503.80
1990-91	600	476.38

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : I would like to know whether there is any proposal to stop this scheme in the 8th Plan in a phased manner and if so, what are the reasons thereof. In the State of Andhra Pradesh this scheme has been stopped for the last one and a half years. Is the Minister aware of this stoppage of the scheme in Andhra Pradesh? If so, what are the actions the Government is going to take to implement this scheme properly?