

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There are nine number of National Highways (*viz.* 3, 6, 7, 12, 16, 25, 26, 27 and 43) in Madhya Pradesh, aggregating to 2946 kms.

(b) No comparison is possible in this respect as National Highways are declared *not* on the basis of any considerations of area, but keeping in view certain norms such as recommendations made by the N.T.P.C. (National Transport Policy Committee), *inter-se* priority attached to individual roads on an All-India basis, fulfilment of the prescribed criteria for new N.Hs, availability of funds for the purpose, etc.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The N.T.P.C. (National Transport Policy Committee) has not recommended this road for inclusion in the National Highway grid and consequently, it does not command priority as a new National Highway.

[*English*]

Seizure of Foreign Fishing Trawlers

744. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to prevent the foreign fishing trawlers going near the Indian Coasts; and

(b) the details of the seizures of such trawlers made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a)

The Indian Coastline and the Exclusive Economic zone are kept under surveillance by the Indian Coast Guard vessels and aircraft and all steps are taken to prevent unauthorised fishing by foreign fishing trawlers in the Indian waters.

(b) The details of unauthorised foreign fishing trawlers apprehended during the last three years are:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of apprehensions</i>
1988	31
1989	36
1990	39
1991	21

(till date)

Seizure of Gold, Silver and Heroin at Airports

745. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the quantity and value of smuggled gold, silver and heroin seized by customs authorities at various airports in the country during the year 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): The quantity and value of contraband gold and silver and quantity of heroin seized by the Customs authorities at the international airports located at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Amritsar, Tiruchirapally, Patna and Varnasi during the financial year 1990-91, *i.e.* April, 1990 to March, 1991 are given in the table below:—

	<i>Quantity (in kgs.)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
Gold	2759.947	9233.10
Silver	285.941	19.28
Heroin	227.880	No precise value of heroin can be estimated since it depends on its purity, place of origin etc.