

(a) whether instructions have been issued by the Directorate of Defence Estates under Central Command to its various Cantonment Boards for proper maintenance of essential services and improving sanitation programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether legal notices concerning any particular Cantonment Board etc. have been received by the Directorate during the past six months ending on 31 July, 1991; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued from time to time by the Director of Defence Estates, Central Command, Lucknow, to the Cantonment Boards under the Command for the proper maintenance of services and improvement of sanitation facilities in the Cantonment areas.

(c) and (d) In December 1990, a public interest writ petition before the Ranchi Bench of Patna High Court was filed by Shri Yugal Prasad Jaiswal to issue direction to the Ministry of Defence (Director General of Defence Estates), Government of Bihar, the GOC-in-C, Central Command (Defence Estates), and the Cantonment Board, Ramgarh for the conversion of 13 dry type public latrines in Ramgarh Cantonment, constructed in 1953, into water borne flush type by the Cantonment Board. This matter is still sub-judice.

INVESTIGATIONS INTO MISUSE OF GOVERNMENT LANDED PROPERTIES AT CANTONMENT BOARD, KANPUR.

1365. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government auditors had in 1984 made certain observations regarding the misuse of Government landed

properties bearing survey No. 504 to Cantonment Board, Kanpur;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken by the Directorate of Defence Estates, Lucknow and appropriate authorities in Kanpur on the auditors observations;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Local Audit Officer, through a letter of 4-7-84, had raised an objection on the conversion of a portion of a site bearing Survey No. 504, Kanpur Cantonment, recorded as Public Garden (Mahatma Gandhi Park), into commercial use by the Cantonment Board without requisite Government approval. The Cantonment Board and the Defence Estates authorities had taken up the matter with their higher authorities for obtaining Government sanction to use the portion of the site for commercial purposes in order to regularise the matter.

(c) and (d) : Do not arise.

[Translation]

DECLARATION OF ROADS AS NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

1366. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA : DR. C. SILVERA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the names of roads declared as National Highways during the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : The details of roads included in the National Highway grid during the last three years in different states are as under, viz.

S. No.	N.H. No.	Name of the Road	State	Length (in kms)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	11-A	Link Road from Manoharpura on N.H. 8 to Dausa on N.H. 11.	Rajasthan	64
2.	14	Bawal-Sirohi-Kandla Road.	Rajasthan	310
			Gujarat	140

1	2	3	4	5
3.	16	Nizamabad-Jagdarpur Road	Andhra Pradesh Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh	220 30 210
4.	20	Pathankot-Mandi Road	Punjab Himachal Pradesh	10 210
5.	49	Cochin-Madurai Road (extension of N.H. 49).	Kerala Tamil Nadu	150 130
6.	55	Siliguri-Darjeeling Road	West Bengal	77

[English]

**POSTING OF STAFF IN BRANCHES
OF NATIONALISED BANKS AT
SRINAGAR**

1367. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised banks are facing difficulty in posting their staff in their branches at Srinagar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for posting of staff in branches of nationalised banks at Srinagar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Because of the prevailing law and order situation, some of the branches of the public sector banks in the Kashmir Valley are facing some difficulty in the posting of staff. To overcome this difficulty, special recruitment has been made for the two major banks operating in the Valley and to the extent of available vacancies, the candidates so recruited are likely to be issued appointment letters after completing the necessary formalities.

EXCHANGE RATE OF RUPEE

1368. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise average exchange rate of rupee vis-a-vis major foreign currencies i.e. US \$, Pound sterling, German mark, Japanese yen during the last five years;

(b) the de-facto devaluation in the value of the rupee in terms of these foreign currencies and SDRs over the last five years as on April 1, 1991; and

(c) whether the Government propose to shape an exchange mechanism to ensure a continuous adjustment of the exchange rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) The year-wise average exchange rate of the rupee vis-a-vis major foreign currencies during the last five years and the deprecia-