

(b) Eleven Accident Policies for a total sum insured of Rs. 8.77 lakhs were taken by Shri Anil Kumar Singh from L.I.C. Out of these eleven policies, four were issued by Midnapore office, five by Patna B.O. II and two by Khan Market Branch, New Delhi.

(c) The claims are pending since early 1989 as the cases are under investigation by the C.B.I.

(d) & (e) The liabilities under the policies have not yet been established and therefore the question of payment of interest does not arise.

(f) Action can be initiated by the Insurance Companies only after findings of the CBI become available.

[English]

Industry

Sickness in Small Scale Sector

2392. SHRIMATI BASVA-RAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion from the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry for the setting up of a body similar to the Bureau for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to deal exclusively with sickness in the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(c) the number of small scale sector units which are in the list of sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the information compiled by the Reserve Bank of India, the total number of sick small scale industrial units as on December 31, 1988 (the latest date for which information has been compiled) was 2,40,573.

100 *Tamil Nadu*
Construction of Highway between Madras and Kanyakumari

2393. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHI TINDIVANAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in laying the highway road between Madras and Kanyakumari and the number of road bridges completed and under completion for this purpose;

(b) whether the Government propose to monitor the progress of this project in view of the heavy traffic on the Grand Southern Trunk Road and completed the work in a specified period; and

(c) if so, the time-schedule therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Madras to Kanyakumari stretch is already connected by sections of National Highway Nos. 45 and 7 which are fully bridged. Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to development of Eastcoast Road connecting Madras and Kanyakumari via Pondicherry-Nagapattinam-Tuticorin. This road is a State road and as such, the Government of Tamil Nadu are primarily concerned with its development. However, with the financial assistance of the Government of India, 38 bridges have been completed under Central Aid Programme for State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance. In addition, the section from Madras to Cuddalore, having a length of about 160 kilometres is being improved under Loan Assistance of Asian Development Bank. The work has recently been awarded by the State Government for execution. The progress of this project will be monitored by the State Government and the project is targetted to be completed by 1995.