

not been stopped; but the progress has been slowed down due to paucity of funds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 18.31 crores.

(d) Upto 31st March 1967, a sum of Rs. 6.112 crores had been spent.

**Railway link between Cuttack and Paradeep Port**

6565. Shri D. D. Jena: ..  
Shri D. Amat:  
Shri R. R. Singh Deo:  
Shri D. N. Deb:

Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work of Kandla Port is still half way but the Railway Link has been completed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Paradeep Port construction work has been completed long since, but no railway communication is there;

(c) the cause of such defective planning;

(d) whether Government propose to take up this Railway link between Cuttack and Paradeep Port in the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether Government propose to take this Railway link some other point to expedite its construction; and

(f) if the reply to parts (d) and (e) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) to (f). It is not a fact that there has been defective planning with regard to provision of rail links to Kandla and Paradeep Ports. In the case of Kandla the essential rail link by metre gauge was in fact taken up and completed by 1963 before the Port itself was commissioned in stages between 1955 and 1957. In the light of the development of traffic of this

Port, the construction of a broad gauge link has also been taken up and is expected to be completed by the end of 1969.

Paradeep Port was developed mainly for export of iron ore transported to the Port by road. The construction of the Paradeep Express way was undertaken in this context. It was all along understood that the provision of a rail link to this Port would be considered only at a stage when iron ore in larger quantities than originally envisaged was to move through this Port. However, the Ministry of Railways are carrying out surveys for a rail link to Paradeep from Cuttack or any other point on the East Coast line. A decision regarding the provision of the link during the Fourth Plan period can be taken only after the surveys have been completed.

**Tractors lying idle in India**

6566. Shri G. S. Mishra:  
Shri Nitraj Singh Chaudhary:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey of the total number of tractors in the country lying idle for want of spares;

(b) if so, the state-wise figures thereof;

(c) the measures taken by Government to provide necessary spares to our cultivators;

(d) the terms and conditions with regard to the purchase of spares by Government from the countries supplying tractors to India; and

(e) the total number of tractors in the country, state-wise, being used for agricultural and non-agricultural purposes, separately?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No such survey has been made.