

the West Coast Road to the standard of National Highway;

(b) whether there is any proposal from any of the State Governments concerned to change the alignment of this National Highway;

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government to such proposals; and

(d) whether the State Governments are competent to propose a change in alignment of road declared as National Highway?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA):**

(a) The West Coast Road has been declared as a National Highway with effect from 7th March 1972. Earlier, it was being developed as a single-lane Highway under the Central Aid Programme of State roads of inter-State or economic importance. Following its declaration as a National Highway, the State Governments concerned have been asked to carry out inventory surveys in order to assess the deficiencies existing on this road as also make an assessment of the cost involved for its improvement to National Highway standards. The inventory surveys have since been carried out which are being kept in view while planning for the further development of this road to National Highway standards.

(b) and (c). Maharashtra and Kerala Governments have suggested some changes in the alignment of this National Highway in a few reaches of the road in their respective territories. The proposed changes will be examined further in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

(d) The State Governments could propose changes in the alignment of National Highways but the final decision in this regard is taken by the Government of India depending upon merits of the proposal.

**Appointment of Study Team by R.B.I. regarding Cooperative Credit System**

**2815. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has appointed a study team to go into the question of overdues at various levels of the three-tier co-operative credit system in the country;

(b) if so, what are the other points which the team has been asked to study; and

(c) when it is likely to submit its report and who are the Members of the team?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):**

(a) to (c). A Study Team on overdues of cooperative credit institutions has been appointed by the Reserve Bank of India on the 16th December, 1972 to go into the question of overdues at various levels of the Three-tier Cooperative Credit System in the country.

The terms of reference of the Study Team are as under:—

(i) To study the position of overdues at various levels of the Three-tier Cooperative Credit System in the country and to broadly ascertain the causes therefor and their effect on the flow of credit and suggest remedial measures;

(ii) To examine the policy and procedure for granting conversion facilities contemplated under the stabilization arrangements in vogue; to identify the factor responsible for the undue delay or unreasonable denial of conversion facilities and to suggest the steps necessary for making assistance available in time to the affected cultivators; to examine incidentally the procedure obtaining in

regard to the granting of extensions and the need and usefulness or otherwise of this type of relief and to make recommendations in regard thereto;

(iii) To examine the procedures connected with the rephasing or re-scheduling of conversion loans granted out of stabilization funds in times of successive crop failures and in this connection also, if recourse to funds other than those of the cooperative structure appears necessary; to examine the measures needed for making use of the agricultural credit relief and guarantee funds of the State Governments for the ultimate write-off of such loans;

(iv) To study the magnitude of non-wilful default and the circumstances under which relief to such category of defaulters could be provided, say, on the basis of rehabilitation programmes drawn up for them; to define such category of defaulters and stipulate the terms and conditions under which relief could be given; to recommend the financial arrangements required at the various levels for this purpose and to suggest measures for the building up of the required funds and to examine in this context whether the long term operations fund of the Reserve Bank could be utilised for giving share capital contribution to ensure the smooth flow of production credit under these circumstances and to make recommendations in regard thereto;

(v) To make any other recommendations which are incidental to or related to the above terms of reference.

3. The members of the Team are:—

**Chairman**

- (1) Chief Officer, Agricultural Credit Department Reserve Bank of India, Bombay.

**Members**

- (2) Chairman, Gujarat State Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad.
- (3) A representative of the Department of Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi.
- (4) Special Secretary to the Government of Rajasthan, Agricultural and Cooperation Department, Jaipur.
- (5) Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

**Member Secretary**

- (6) Joint Chief Officer, Agricultural Credit Department, Reserve Bank of India, Bombay.

The Team may coopt other members.

4. The Team is expected to submit its report in about six months time.

**Under Capitalised Concerns in Sugar Industry**

2816. SHRI M. R. LAKSHMI-NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the firms in the Sugar Industry are under capitalised;

(b) if so, their names, State-wise; and

(c) what action Government propose to take against such firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.