

3. Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of handloom and handicraft items from all over the country, including Rajasthan, like sending sale-cum-study teams, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines, participation in fair in major markets, grant of export incentives etc. Besides, handloom fabrics and handicraft items are not covered by the quota restrictions.

### National Highways

6871. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment on the total kilometres of national highways which the country will be needing by the end of current century; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to develop the National Highways accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is having in mind the 20-Year (1981-2001 Road Development Plan prepared by a group of Chief Engineers under the aegis of Indian Roads Congress, which envisages *inter alia*, a National Highway network aggregating to 66,000 kms by the turn of the century. However, the Govt. has not made any independent assessment in this regard.

(b) Development of National Highways is a continuous activity. Keeping in view the recommendations made by the National Transport Policy Committee, the prescribed criteria of new N.H.s and availability of funds etc., it has been possible to add a length of 4,666 kms of National Highway grid since 1980. Further additions to the N.H. system

would depend on availability of funds in the 8th Plan or subsequent plans etc.

### Survey by Tfair for Export Potential in States

6972. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Trade Fair Authority of India has conducted a survey on the export potential of different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Rajasthan; and

(c) the steps taken to promote exports from Rajasthan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

### Foreign Exchange for setting up of Petro-Chemical Project at Haldia

6973. SHRISATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide necessary foreign exchange for setting up of petro-chemical project at Haldia, West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. Asian Development Bank and International Finance Corporation have been approached to finance the Haldia Petro-chemical Complex in West Bengal.

(b) International Finance Corporation