

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) As reported by the State Public Works Department, this section was damaged by floods during the last years. However, no report of any damages has been received so far in the current year.

(b) and (c) During the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91), improvement works costing Rs. 339 lakhs and flood damage repair works costing Rs. 103 lakhs were sanctioned for the portion of this National Highway in Khagaria Division (Km. 218 to Km. 331) apart from normal maintenance activities. Most of the flood damage repair works have been completed.

*Uttar Pradesh*  
Opening of a branch of Nationalised Bank in Fatehganjpurvi in Bareilly District (U.P.)

2379. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any requests for opening a branch of a nationalised bank in Fatehganjpurvi district, Bareilly, U.P. ;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to open a branch in that area;

(c) if so, when the said branch is likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) It is reported by the Reserve Bank of India that no such request appears to have been received by them.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Seizure of smuggled goods on Coastal Areas of Gujarat

2380. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of smugglers caught in the coastal areas of Gujarat during the last six months and the smuggled goods recovered from them; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to check smuggling in the aforesaid areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) The Customs authorities have seized contraband worth Rs. 6.22 crores approximately and arrested 11 persons in the Coastal areas of the State of Gujarat during the period from January to June, 1991.

(b) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country especially in the vulnerable areas of the coastline has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. The Customs officers have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, firearms, night vision binoculars, etc. for combating smuggling activities more effectively. A Telecommunication network has also been provided to the Customs Preventive Collectorate, Gujarat.

*[English] SCs/STs, Delhi*  
State Transport authority permits to transporters belonging to SCs/STs

2381. SHRI KALKA DASS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of transporters having STA permits issued by the Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;

(c) whether some more STA permits are proposed to be issued to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Delhi Administration have informed that 306 Stage Carriage Permits on city routes have been issued by the State Transport Authority, Delhi.