

problems. Consonant with the need for security in the issue of passports, Government undertakes an on-going process relating to staffing patterns, policy, equipment and premises in order to simplify procedures for the issue of passports.

New Telecommunications System

4654. SHRI DHARMANNA
MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit US based Hughes network system to introduce their telecommunication system in telecom sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outstanding features of the system and the advantages likely to be derived as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Works in Maharashtra Under Central Road Fund

4655. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a number of proposals relating to works to be executed under Central Road Fund and requested for its expeditious implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). In 1989, the Government of Maharashtra sent 801 schemes costing Rs. 365.59 crores to be financed under augmented Central Road Fund. Out of these schemes, 42 schemes have been approved taking into account the likely accruals upto 31.3.92 as per Old Resolution. Since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund has not taken place so far, it is too early to indicate the time by which the remaining schemes would be approved.

Disposing of unclaimed vessels

4656. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unclaimed 'ocean going vessels' repaired and lying in the country at various shipyards for the past three years;

(b) if so, the action the shipbuilding companies have initiated for disposing of the unclaimed vessels; and