

[English]

Work on National Highway in Kerala

1690. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up the work on the National Highway from Mahe to Manjeswar in Kerala during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether alignment has been completed and land acquired for the commissioning of the work;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total allocation made for the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Annual Plan for 1995-96 has not yet been finalised.

(c) and (d) Alignment of Mahe to Manjeswar reach has been approved. Land acquisition is in progress.

(e) Allocation of funds for the National Highway is made State-wise and not work-wise.

Improvement of Telephone system

1691. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that telephone system in Southern Assam particularly in Karimganj area is in a deplorable condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken by the Government in improve the telephones system there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Telecom system in Southern Assam including Karimganj is working satisfactorily. There are thirteen telephone exchange in Karimganj and all of them are electronic type.

(c) Efforts are being made through the implementation of the successive Annual Plan to extend communication facility where they do not exist and to upgrade the existing facilities by incorporating new technologies subject to availability of resources.

Following developments are planned in the areas during the year 1994-95:—

(i) Opening of new exchange at Mahisarsan.

(ii) Provision of reliable transmission media of 10 channel UHF system between Ram Krishana Nagar and Karimganj.

(iii) Provision of 4-30 MARR system at Karimganj, Bhanga Bazar, Dullavcherra, Nilam Bazar & Badarpur.

Reservation for Burmese students of Indian origin

1693. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for reservation of

certain seats in some medical and engineering colleges for Myanmar Repatriate Indians and for those of Indian Origins who have settled in Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any provision of scholarship of stipends to them; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) Every year a certain number of seats are reserved for foreign students in Government Medical and Engineering Institutions in India under the Self-Financing Foreign Students Scheme and various Scholarship Scheme. The students from developing countries including Myanmar are offered these seats. During the session 1994-95, one candidate each was admitted to medical and engineering courses from Myanmar under the Self-Financing Foreign Students Scheme.

Chartered deep sea vessels

1694. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have enacted strict laws for regulating fishing by deep sea fishing vessels beyond the 12 nautical mile limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the major recommendations of the Murari Committee;

(d) the major recommendations made by Capt. Guidicelli that were accepted by the Government;

(e) whether the Government propose to stop the issue of licenses for charter fishing in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the number of chartered vessels operating in the Indian EEZ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Fishing by foreign vessels in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone is regulated by the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981. The Government lays down restrictions regarding fishing areas, types of fishing, number of vessels, target resource, etc. while granting permissions to Indian-owned vessels.

(c) The recommendations of the Technical Committee on deep sea fishing industry in India, headed by Shri P. Murari, IAS (Retd.) relate to policy measures, financial aspects, development of infrastructure, marketing support, legal framework, training & research and development. The Committee has also suggested financial restructuring & reliefs for sick units.

(d) Salient features of the findings of the FAO Consultant are furnished in the attached statement.