

upto Challisseri in Kerala passing through Goa and Karnataka before taking it over as National Highway in March, 1972. Similar financial assistance amounting to about Rs. 3 crores has been provided for East Coast Road in Tamil Nadu, and Rs. 7,60 crores have been agreed to for coastal roads in Gujarat.

Disbursement of Funds allotted to Orissa

2808. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Sixth Five Year Plan, allocation of Rs. 69.00 crores were made for Orissa for National Highways and only Rs. 13.45 crores have been received by State Government during 1978-79 and 1979-80;

(b) the reasons for failure of the Government of India to disburse proportionate amount annually; and

(c) in the background of backwardness of the State of Orissa in communication, whether the Government will give priority in distribution of funds allocated in the Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTTA SINBH):

(a) to (c). No amount was specifically allocated for any State including Orissa for National Highways, in the draft 1978-83 sixth Plan. Actually it is never done. Allotments for improvement/development of National Highways are made only on a year to year basis keeping in view various factors e.g. works in progress, requirements of funds projected by the States, their admissibility and total funds available. On this basis, during 1978-79 and 1979-80 Rs. 7.624 crores were allotted to Orissa for improvement/development of National Highways. Funds for the development of National Highways are allotted primarily with reference to their requirements of traffic and development aspects as applicable.

Introduction of another Pink City Express train from Jaipur to Delhi

2809. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the only fastest railway train available from Delhi to Jaipur to the foreign and domestic tourists and other passengers is the Pink City Express;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is only one daily service of Pink City train from Delhi to Jaipur in the morning hours and at present there is no service available in morning hours from Jaipur to Delhi;

(c) whether there is a proposal under consideration to have one more Pink City Express daily from Jaipur to Delhi to meet out the demand of domestic and foreign tourists and other passengers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes. However, other fast services are also available viz. 201/202 Ahmedabad-Delhi Mail, 203/204 Ahmadabad-Delhi Express, 215/216 Chetak Express.

(b) Yes. However, 215/216 Chetak Express provides similar service in the reverse direction.

(c) No, not at present.

Conversion of Bonus into Retirement Benefits and Unemployment Relief

2810. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are considering some new proposals to convert a part of bonus or the whole of it into retirement benefits and unemployment relief; and

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision will be taken in this regard?