

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|----|-------------|------------|---|-------|-------|---|------------------------|---|
| 6. | West-Bengal | 2 | 4-Laning between Raniganj and West Bengal/Bihar Boardar Km.438.6 to 474.0 of NH-2 | 35.40 | 88.27 | Pre-const- ruction activities in progress. Teners are to be invited. | Decem- ber. 2000 | (i) Delay in project prepa- ration and land acquisition (ii) Delay in finalisation R&R action plan as per World Bank guidelines |
| 7. | Orissa | State Road | Construction of 6 damaged State Road Bridges in Ganjam District | - | 32.5 | Works comm- enced in March, 1994 Progress-65% | Decem- ber. 1996 | Due to unpre- cedented rains. |
| | | | | | 290.3 | | | |

[English]

Road Development

2960. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "over Rs. 253.000 crore needed for road development: study" appearing in the 'Observer' dated May 22, 1996:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry is primarily concerned with the development of National Highways only. As regards National Highways, it has been assessed that approximately an amount of Rs. 73.000 crores (at 1996 price level), would be needed for removal of deficiencies in the existing National Highway network. No such assessment has, however, been made for expansion of National Highway network due to severe resource constraints.

(c) Keeping in view the inadequate budgetary resources, Government have taken measures to involve private sector in the development and maintenance of National Highways.

[Translation]

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Azamgarh

2961. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tehsil Lalganj of District Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Issue of Passports in Mumbai

2962. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of passports issued in Mumbai and Delhi metropolitan cities after April, 1995:

(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that even after police verification a lot of time is taken in issuing passports:

(c) whether the number of employees is not sufficient in the passport offices in Mumbai:

(d) if so, the details thereof:

(e) whether the Government propose to set up another branch of Passport Office in Mumbai; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The number of passports issued by Regional Passport Office, Mumbai and Regional Passport Office, Delhi from 1.4.95 to 31.7.96 are 306230 and 150583 respectively.

(b) Passports are normally issued on receipt of clear police verification reports or on expiry of four weeks from the date of making such a reference to the police whichever is earlier and on first come first served basis except in cases of emergency/urgency where passports are issued on out of turn basis on the strength of a verification Certificate issued by an authorised official and documentary evidence substantiating the