

International Container Transshipment Terminal at Vallarpadam (Cochin)

939. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complete report of the feasibility study of the Dutch Consultants on the proposed International Container Transshipment Terminal at Vallarpadam (Cochin) has been received;

(b) if so, the recommendations thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Foodgrains Production

940. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a negative growth in foodgrains production in Kerala, Karnataka and Assam during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken to boost the growth of foodgrains production in those States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). The

State of Karnataka and Assam are reported to have positive growth rate of 0.54 and 1.33% per annum in total foodgrains production during Seventh Five Year Plan period. However, the growth in foodgrains production is negative only in Kerala due to decline of area under Rice.

(c) Special thrust by launching Integrated Programme for Rice Development (IPRD) and National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) in Kerala, Karnataka and Assam and Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) on Pulses, Maize and Millets in Karnataka is being implemented to boost the growth of foodgrains production in these States by adopting the improved production technology.

[*Translation*]

National Highways Passing through Palamau (Bihar)

941. SHRI JORAWAR RAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of national highways passing through Palamau district in Bihar;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct National Highways in this district; and

(c) if so, the length thereof and when these roads are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) No National Highway passes through Palamau District in Bihar.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.