

system of opening of LCs, monitoring the utilisation of funds, etc.

Recruitment in National Saving Organisation

4950. SHRI RAM VILLAS PASWAN: will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities of the national Savings Organisation have been gradually declining;

(b) whether fresh recruitment in the Organisation is being continued despite decline in its activities; and

(c) if so, the justification for continuing recruitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIS SINGH): (a) The activities of the National Saving Organisation (NSO) for popularising small savings schemes continued during 1991-92 as in the previous years.

(b) and (c). Government has decided to restructure the NSO in order to make it more effective. In view of this, while direct recruitment has been suspended, posts in the NSO falling under the promotion quota are being filled up at various levels excepting the district Saving Officers.

Satellite port at Ennore

4951. SHRI D. PANDIAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the development of satellite port at Ennore in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether an expert committee has recommended for a bigger port than that was

contemplated earlier;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HJAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A Pre-PIB (public Investment Board) meeting for the proposal has been held in the Ministry on 16.3.92.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(d) It will take about 5 years for completion of the project from the date of Sanction

[Translation]

Conversion of National Highway No. 2 to Expressway

4952. SHRI CHHEDIPASWAN: Will the MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring the National Highway No. 2 passing through Varanasi, Dehari, Onsona, Barhi under 'National Express System' ;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to accord priority to Varanasi-Dehari-Onsona-Barhi segment in view of the heavy traffic on this highway; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). National Highway No. 2 including Varanasi-Dehari-Onsona-barhi Section is one of the

14 high density traffic corridors which have been broadly identified for development as Expressway type facility. However, the decision in this regard can be taken only after detailed technical feasibility and economic viability studies have been carried out and will be subject to *inter-se* priority and availability of funds during the Eighth Plan.

Indians Having Bank Accounts in Foreign Countries.

4953. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian citizens are holding accounts in several banks in foreign countries including Switzerland;

(b) whether the Government have made efforts to find out the amount deposited in each of these banks;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is necessary to obtain prior approval of or to inform the Union Government or any institution of the Government to open accounts in banks abroad and to make term deposits there; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) the government is aware that Indian citizens residing abroad are holding accounts in several banks in foreign countries including Switzerland.

(b) to (d). there is no mechanism to find

out the amount so deposited.

(e) and (f). Indian citizens residing abroad may open and operate accounts or make term deposits in bank abroad but the approval of RBI is necessary for resident Indians to maintain a bank account abroad under Section 8 of FERA, 1973.

[English]

Construction of National Highways in A.P.

4954. SHRI DHARAM BAIKSHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of roads in the grid of National Highway which are under construction in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the amount spent thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Six national Highways bearing numbers 4, 5, 7, 9, 16 and 43 are covered in the grid of National Highways passing through Andhra Pradesh. Development of National Highways is a continuous process and the expenditure incurred on the development of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years is as below:

| Year works | Expenditure on development (Rs. crores) |
|---------------|--|
| 1988-89 | 12.82 |
| 1989-90 | 21.69 |
| 1990-91 | 22.20 |