

(c) whether the site has been selected for this plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) Due to resource constraints and the need for modernisation and expansion of the existing steel plants, no new steel plant is proposed to be set up in the public sector.

[English]

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN T.N.

2134. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR) : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any financial assistance to the Government of Tamil Nadu for the repairs of the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new projects to improve the National Highways across Tamil Nadu is being taken up;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any World Bank aided project is coming up for better maintenance of roadways across the State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 10.48 crores has been allotted for maintenance and repairs of National Highways in Tamil Nadu during the current financial year.

(c) and (d) Improvement/development works on National Highways in Tamil Nadu, estimated to cost Rs. 111.80 crores has been included in the 8th Five Year Plan.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

ABOLITION OF OCTROI DUTY

2135. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI SIMON MARANDI :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a committee to examine all issues pertaining to octroi and pathkar;

(b) if so, the details of the composition of the committee and its terms of reference;

(c) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report; and

(d) the recommendations/steps suggested in the recent meeting between the P.M. and the Chief Ministers of various States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. A committee has been set up to examine the issue of octroi only.

(b) The Committee will consist of Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Haryana, Bihar, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal and Dr. Raja Chelliah, Fiscal Adviser to the Government of India. The Chief Minister of West Bengal, Shri Jyoti Basu is the Chairman of the Committee. The Committee would go into the question of collection mechanism of octroi so as to make it convenient and user-friendly.

(c) The Committee is expected to submit its report within six months from 1-8-1993.

(d) It was decided to constitute a Committee of six Chief Ministers which would go into the question of collection mechanism of octroi.