

achal Pradesh) and between Leh and Upshi (in J & K) sectors of the road

(c) The development of the road is expected to be completed by 1990-91 except for major bridges (more than 30 mtrs in length) which are likely to be completed by 1994. This does not, however, include construction of a tunnel at Roh-tang and a possible tunnel at Baralachala.

#### **Simplification of procedure for obtaining Visa for Bangladesh**

2965. SHRI AJOY BISWAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion was held in the meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint commission to simplify the procedure of obtaining visa for Bangladesh from India for which the people are being faced much difficulties; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The subject does not fall within the Commission's purview.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Demand of Indian Jewellery in Gulf Countries**

2966. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian gold jewellery has great demand in Saudi Arabian and other Gulf countries, and

(b) if so, the steps contemplated to increase export of gold jewellery to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). There has, of

late, been a decline report in the demand for gold jewellery in the Gulf countries. Measures have been devised to increase exports of gold jewellery from India to different markets abroad by means of specialised exhibitions and trade fairs, interaction of Indian jewellers with foreign design experts, relaxations in some of the provisions of the Gold Control Act for export production of gold jewellery, setting up of units for export production of gold jewellery in Special Export-Oriented Complexes and Export Processing Zones.

#### **Silver Filigree Exports**

2967. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the silver filigree manufactured at Cuttack (Orissa) has good demand in international market; and

(b) if so, the efforts made by Government to boost silver filigree exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). In view of the good potential for export of silver ornaments and articles from India, including silver filigree made in Orissa, a practical silverware export policy has been implemented in addition to other measures being initiated for product and market development in this sector.

#### **Import of Leather Goods by China**

2968. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has shown keen interest in Indian leather goods;

(b) if so, the details of items of leather goods for which order has been placed by China; and

(c) the action taken to meet the orders satisfactorily?