

(b) whether the existing criteria followed in arriving at the quantum of Central Road Fund to be allotted to any State has become obsolete in view of the present price of motor spirit;

(c) if so, whether Union Government propose to adopt new norms to fix the Central Road Fund amount to be allotted to a State; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Rs. 90.00 lakhs.

(b) to (d). The need for mobilisation of additional resources for the road sector including augmentation of Central Road Fund has been felt. The issues need to be gone into taking into account a total view of resources and the likely impact of the increase in the prices of the petroleum products and the potential of the Petroleum Industry to absorb it. In view of above, no time limit can be stipulated at present.

#### **Widening of Vijayawada-Guntur Portion of N. H. No. 5**

5264. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vijayawada-Guntur portion of National Highway No. 5 is the heaviest traffic corridor in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is a proposal to widen Vijayawada Guntur portion to four lanes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the likely date by which the work will be taken up for its widening?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) This stretch of the Highway carries very heavy traffic.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. In the Seventh Five Year Plan there is a provision for widening

to four lanes Vijayawada-Guntur-Ongole Section at a cost of Rs. 60.00 crores. The work will be taken up in phases depending upon *inter-se* priority of various projects and availability of resources.

#### **Railway Passes to Religious Missionaries**

5265. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complimentary passes have been issued to Christian Missionaries in India for travelling in the country; what are the details of the concessions permitted or are to be allowed;

(b) the names of the persons with nationality to whom such passes have been issued and justification for providing such passes in each case; and

(c) whether similar facilities have been provided to other religious preachers in India, if so, their names, status and addresses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No All India Complimentary Card Passes have been issued to Christian Missionaries, as such. One All India Complimentary Pass has, however, been issued to the Missionaries of Charity, Calcutta, headed by Mother Teresa in view of her distinguished social work and which is recognised worldwide for which she has been awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize. On the Card Pass, extra luggage, as per requirement is permitted to be carried. As regards the details of other concessions, 10 cheque passes per year for specified journeys ex-Calcutta and back with permission to carry extra luggage have also been allowed to Missionaries of Charity.

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

#### **On-Going Railway Projects**

5266. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the number of on-going railway projects in the country; and