

(b) if so, the total cost of the bridge; and

(c) the progress of construction of the two approach roads and the link road connecting the National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. Thevara bridge is in an advanced stage of construction.

(b) The total approved cost of the bridge is Rs. 7.10 crores.

(c) With regard to approaches, reclamation work is in progress and action to fix agency for the remaining items is being taken. In respect of the balance portion of Link Road connecting Thevara to National Highway 47, land acquisition and project preparation are in an advanced stage.

Swiss Aided Dairy Development Project in Phulbani District of Orissa

2405. **SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL:** Will be Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced any Swiss aided dairy development project in Phulbani district of Orissa;

(b) if not, whether any such project is proposed to be introduced in Orissa during the current financial year;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the steps taken to implement that project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL

YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Relief to Pepper Growers in Kerala

2406. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Will be Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to give any financial assistance to the Pepper growers of Kerala who have suffered loss due to the damage of peppervines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala requesting for financial assistance to growers for the loss due to the damage of peppervines.

(b) Does not arise.

Prevention of Duplication of Work in Rural Development

2407. **SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:** Will be Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed the States to take steps for preventing duplication of work by agencies involved in rural development; and

(b) if so, the details of the directions issued to States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOP-

MENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). Before 1.4.89, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) were being implemented under the wage employment programmes. Under both the programmes, economically productive and socially useful assets could be created. Whereas NREP projects could be sanctioned at the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) level, the RLEGP projects were sanctioned at the Union Government level after they have been approved by the Project Approval Board of the State Government. Some duplication of effort accordingly was possible earlier. With effect from 1.4.89, the Government have merged the earlier programmes of NREP and RLEGP and have now started implementing only one wage employment programme known as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). Under the JRY, the projects are locally identified and implemented. The duplication of work by agencies, therefore, has been effectively curbed. The directions to the State Governments have been issued in the form of the Manual on JRY, a copy of which was sent to the hon'ble Members by post separately. Its copies have also been kept in the Parliament Library for the perusal of the hon'ble Members

Take Over of National Highways by National Highways Authority

2408. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will be Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme of phased take over of the National Highways by the National Highways Authority has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Authority have also

taken over the work from the respective States machinery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Operation Black Board Programme In Bihar

2409. DR. C.P. THAKUR: Will be Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of blocks selected in Bihar under Operation Black Board; and

(b) the details of work done so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The details of Blocks covered in Bihar under the scheme of Operation Blackboard during 1987-88 and 1988-89 are given in the statement below.

(b) The Quarterly Progress Report as on 31st March, 1989 for the first phase indicates that out of 9379 schools identified as deficient in buildings, the State Government has constructed buildings in 3418 schools and construction is in progress in another 3640 schools. All the 6198 posts of teachers have been filled and the total amount of Rs. 956.22 lakhs provided for salary of these teachers has been spent. In regard to teaching and learning equipment the State Government has utilised Rs. 107.70 lakhs out of Rs. 912.19 lakhs provided for this purpose.

The first Quarterly Progress Report for the second phase is due in August.