

(d) where the project stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d). Yes Sir; the proposal of providing a combined Hubli-Dharwar bye-pass on National Highway No. 4 has been under consideration for quite some time. Even though the alignment had been under investigation, the work could not be sanctioned due to financial constraints. The work of land acquisition of the bye-pass is now included in the current Five-Year Plan (1978—83) at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs and the land acquisition estimate received from the State Public Works Department is presently under consideration. Subject to the availability of necessary resources, the first stage construction (earthwork in formation and culverts etc.) at a cost of Rs. 100 lakhs is proposed to be included in the 1980—85 Plan, which is under finalisation. The total cost of the byepass is roughly assessed as Rs. 300 lakhs.

Serious Train accidents occurred during the last three years

3437. SHRI T. M. SAWANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many accidents occurred during the last three years pertaining to Civil, Mechanical, Electrical engineering, Signal and Telecommunication and Operating Departments;

(b) the amount of compensation paid, year-wise;

(c) the number of Railways staff responsible for these accidents year-wise and department-wise; and

(d) out of these staff as at (a) above, how many belongs to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes community year-wise and department-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

Payment of Salary to Gazetted Officers

3738. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Finance issued instructions at the beginning of the current financial year that payments of salaries to the Gazetted staff should be made on the basis of options obtained from them whether to get it in cash or through cheques on the Bank of Baroda, the authorised bank in this case;

(b) whether these instructions are not being followed by the Pay and Accounts Offices under his Ministry; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps which he proposes to take to set matters right in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes.

(b) The instructions are being followed in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the payment control of Pay and Accounts Office (Sectt.). The information in respect of Attached and Subordinate Offices under the payment control of various other Pay and Accounts Offices is not available.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.