

(iii) The Chairman and Secretary of the Commission have taken a decision to select only 10% of the candidates of non-Assamese communities.

(iv) The selection for Tracers in scale Rs. 260—430 was done by holding a written examination followed by a viva-voce test but the selection for trainee Draughtsmen/Estimators in scale Rs. 330—560/- was done by holding viva-voce test instead of written examination to facilitate selection of unsuitable candidates of Assamese communities.

The matter is being investigated.

Proposal for construction of a Coastal Road from Madras to Kanyakumari

10125. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are proposals under consideration for the construction of a Coastal Road from Madras to Kanyakumari ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) . The Government of Tamilnadu are primarily responsible for its construction as it is a State Road. However, with a view to assist the State Government in the development of this road, funds aggregating about Rs. 3 crores have already been provided to the State Government for

construction of missing road links and bridges under the Central Aid Programme of State Roads of inter-State or Economic Importance and from Central Road Funds.

Surcharge at Bombay Port

10126. SHRI A. A. RAHIM : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some shipping companies have decided to levy a ten per cent surcharge at Bomaby Port?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEER-
ENDRA PATIL) : Yes, Sir. The following shipping Conferences have levied a 10 per cent congestion surcharge on the port of Bombay with effect from the dates indicated against each :—

1. India- 4.6.1981 On imports
Pakistan-
Bangladesh- and
UK/Continent exports
Conference
2. Japan 20.4.1981 On imports
/India-Pakistan-Gulf/
KARBHOM
Japan only.
Conference
(JAPPERCON)
2. The Bombay Port Trust are taking effective measures to ease the situation.

Howrah Asansol Express

10127. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI KRISHNA CHANDR
HALDER :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Howrah--Asansol Express is running with 12 coaches instead of scheduled 17 coaches ;

(b) if so, considering the difficulties of the people of Asansol-Raniganj-Durgapur area whether the Government propose to run the train with 17 coaches and in time ;