

1981 that "the tragedy that befell Egyptian Sadat shows how dangerous it is to live in an image of a leader proposed up from outside";

(b) if so, do not this statement amount to virtual support to the assassination of President Sadat and encouragement to one politics of murders; and

(c) is it not true that the statement has damaged India's image?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) The relevant extract from the record of Prime Minister's press conference in Manila on October 9, 1981 is given below:

"Mr. Tanedo: Would you allow me to ask another question Madam? As one of the leaders of the non-aligned nations, how would you assess the effects of the death of Egyptian President on the search for

Mrs Gandhi: It is little early to prophesy on that. And my assessment is that, it is not good for any people to feel that somebody is being strongly supported from outside. That weakens him in his country and in his region. President Sadat made a bold attempt. But you know that it did not make him popular among Arab countries. A solution of that particular, very delicate problem, of what is normally called the Middle East and which we in India call the West Asia, is only possible if there is an agreement. But as to what will happen in Egypt, I think it is much too early to say."

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

Request for more money for Second Hooghly Bridge

2025. SHRI AJIT BAG;
SHRI R. P. DAS;
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal requested the Central

Government to release a sum of Rs. 14 crores in addition to the already sanctioned Rs. 12 crores for the current financial year for the Second Hooghly Bridge under construction;

(b) if so, whether Government has released the amount; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The request has been examined carefully but it has not been possible to increase the Budget provision in the current year due to financial constraints.

Opening of a NCERT Centre at Bangalore

2026. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress achieved in opening of a National Council on Educational Research and Training Centre at Bangalore or the Southern Region; and

(b) the hurdles, if any in implementing the programme.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS, AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). There is no plan of setting up a NCERT centre at Bangalore for the Southern Region, or at any other place in the country. It will be better to build up the counter part institutions at the State level.

Collaborations with the States in the Southern Region are established by NCERT either directly, or through its Regional College of Education at Mysore, or more particularly through its Field Advisers in the Southern States.