

- (b) if so, when it will be done; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SITA RAM KESRI): (a) to (c) Owing to financial constraints, Government of India are unable to declare any road as a National Highway at present, and this applies to the East Coast Road also. However, with a view to helping the State Government in the development of this road for meeting the needs of the traffic, financial assistance amounting to about Rs. 3.00 crores was provided for the construction of a missing road link and bridges on the road in the 4th and 5th Plan under the Central Aid Programme of State roads of inter-State or economic importance and from the Central Road Fund.

Location of the Proposed C.I.S.F. Barracks

2000. DR. A. KALANIDHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is difference of opinion in locating the proposed C.I.S.F. barracks in Madras Port Trust area;

(b) if so, what is the final decision taken in this matter; and

(c) if not, whether it is proposed to locate the C.I.S.F. barracks outside the Madras Port Trust area to avoid congestion?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c) Originally it was proposed to construct the C.I.S.F. barracks at Panamarahatti, which is situated about four Kms. north of the main entrance of the Harbour. However, as some delay was anticipated in acquiring this land from the Navy, it was decided to locate the C.I.S.F. barracks within the port premises adjacent to the new workshop. The construction work is

in progress. The location of barracks inside the Port area will not in any way contribute to congestion in the Port.

Modernisation of Central Medical Stores, Madras

2001. DR. A. KALANIDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the aim in functioning Central Medical Stores at Madras City;

(b) whether there is any proposal to modernise the Central Medical Store at Madras, to meet the growing need for standard and quality drugs of Central and State Government hospitals and dispensaries;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) The main functions of the Government Medical Store Depot at Madras are:

(1) to procure and supply medicines, surgical equipments and other medical stores required by the hospitals and dispensaries, etc. run by the Central Government, State Governments/U.Ts. and local bodies in that region;

(2) receipt, storage and distribution of supplies of drugs and allied stores received from International agencies such as W.H.O., UNICEF, USAID, etc. under various agreements in that region;

(3) Storage and issue of stores under various National Health and Family Welfare Programme;

(4) meeting emergency requirements of life saving drugs during national calamities.

(b) There is no such proposal but quality control measures are being tightened up in all Medical Stores Depots.