

ford to purchase an instrument called Artificial Electronic Larynx for their speech;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Laryngotomy Club of India, New Delhi requested Government to include Laryngotomies in the list of Physically Handicapped so that they could avail of the Central scheme of Assistance for disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids/appliances; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) The Laryngotomy Club of India had proposed that laryngotomies may be included in the list of disabled persons and artificial larynx may be provided to them under the scheme of "Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aids/appliances". The proposal has been considered and it has been decided that so far as the scheme of "Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aids/appliances" is concerned, the Government have decided that the laryngotomies are to be considered as disabled persons for the purpose of getting aids/appliances under the scheme of this Ministry.

Railway line between Gulberga and Latur via Aland and Kamanpur

3087. SHRI NARSING SURYAWANSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey has been made for the new Railway line between Gulberga and Latur via Aland and Kamalapur;

(b) if not, whether Government will conduct the survey to construct the new railway line; and

(c) whether Government will allocate funds for the construction work in the financial year 1983-84?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). No.

Condition of National Highways passing through Municipal Limits of cities and towns

3088. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the poor condition of the parts of National Highways passing through the Municipal Limits of cities and towns;

(b) if so, whether there is any move to amend the National Highway Act, 1956 to bring these parts under the purview of the Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Government of India are aware of the general condition of all the National Highways including the lengths of roads passing through Municipal limits of cities and towns. Improvement & maintenance of National Highways is a continuing process and these are being constantly improved & maintained in a traffic worthy condition within the overall financial constraints. However, according to the National Highway Act 1956 the lengths of roads situated within "Municipal Areas" are not a part of National Highway system. Maintenance and development of such portions is the responsibility of the State Govt./Local Bodies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The main idea of not including the lengths of roads situated within the "Municipal Areas" as part of National Highways in the National Highway Act is that the ultimate aim is to segregate the local traffic in the Municipal Areas from the through traffic on the National Highways by providing parallel service roads or bypasses.