

**Development of Haldia Port as a
Container Terminal**

1944. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTER-
JEE :

SHRI NIREN GHOSH :

SHRI R.P. DAS. :

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Haldia port has the potential to serve as a major container terminal in the Eastern region of the country ;

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to develop the said potential ; and

(c) whether a developed Haldia port will go far way in the development of trade of the whole country in general and the Eastern region, in particulars ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Because of limitation in regard to the draught of vessels that could call at Haldia, the potential of Haldia port as a major container terminal is limited.

(b) To develop the container traffic at Haldia, Calcutta Port Trust authorities have reduced the rates for handling of containers and encouraged movement of containers by barges between Calcutta and Haldia. Besides, Government is considering setting up an Inland Container Depot (ICD) at Gauhati for facilitating movement of tea in containers from Assam region.

(c) With the above developments, Haldia Port should be able to serve the industrial and commercial needs of its immediate hinterland in particular and the country in general.

Railway over bridge at Kuttipuram

1945. SHRI E.K. IMBICHIBAVA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the action taken by the Government for the construction of Railway Overbridge of the National Highway No. 17 at Kuttipuram, Malapuram District Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAU-

DHURI) : The Railways undertake construction of road over/under bridges in replacement of existing busy level crossings jointly on cost sharing basis with the State Governments/Road Authorities. The proposals in this regard have to be sponsored by the State/Governments/Road Authorities and the cost is shared broadly on 50 : 50 basis. Proposal for construction of a road over bridges in replacement of existing level crossing at Km. 608/7-8 on National Highway No. 17 at Kuttipuram is under the examination of the Railway and the Ministry of Shipping and Transport.

Study of Himalayan Glaciars

1946. SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had granted permission to conduct the study of Himalayan Glaciars specially new techniques for the study of snow and ice ;

(b) whether any foreigners were also allowed to collaborate with this project ; and

(c) the areas for research and whether the researchers had submitted any report of their study and the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) A Research project received from the Aligarh Muslim University on the study of History of Himalayan Glaciars as an aid to the understanding of climatic change was approved by the Ministry of Education in 1979. The project has since been discontinued.

(b) The research project was to be undertaken in collaboration with the University of Ohio and New Hampshire in the United States of America.

(c) The foreign scholars/scientists who were associated with the project were to visit only such areas as were open to foreigners. According to the information received from the Indian Coordinator of the project, the study was undertaken in different areas in 1979 and 1980. Bad weather prevented any study in 1981. According to the available information, the chemical composition of the