

lier before at Calcutta Port ;

(c) whether any consultant group has been appointed to take long and short term measures for Calcutta as promised ; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :

(a) No information regarding such a promise is available. However, there is a proposal to set up a Container Freight Station at Calcutta Port.

(b) In view of the considerable increase in container traffic at Calcutta, the Port Trust engaged Consultants to recommend short term as well as long term measures for creating container handling facilities. Based on the recommendation of the Consultants, the Port has submitted a proposal for container handling facilities, including a container freight station, to the Government for consideration.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Loss on providing Pantry/Dining Car instead of Passengers Boggles

2751. **SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are losing crores of rupees as passenger fare by providing pantry/dining car in mail and express trains instead of providing a passenger bogey containing 72 to 75 sleeper berths ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this facility being continued ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI) : (a) and (b) Mobile catering services are normally provided in certain important long distance trains, subject to availability of room and pantry/kitchen/dining cars, when arrangements for supply of food etc. from the static units at stations en-route are either not adequate or the timings are not suitable. Since providing food to passengers is an essential passenger amenity, provision of which is inescapable, loss in the passenger fare cannot be considered as a factor for discontinuing the mobile catering services

Connecting National Highway No. 5 in Mayurbhanj District with National Highway No 6, in Orissa

2752. **SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to connect National Highway No. 5 in Mayurbhanj District with National Highway No. 6 which also passes through the same District in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the amount estimated for providing a link of National Highway No. 5 with National Highway No. 6 in Mayurbhanj District in Orissa ;

(c) the steps taken in this regard ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :

(a) Presumably, the Member is having in mind the construction of a National Highway link to Mayurbhanj District Orissa for connecting NH. Nos. 5 and 6 respectively. Actually, these two National Highways already criss-cross at a place called, Jharpokharia, as well as run almost parallel to each other in Mayurbhanj District itself. Owing to