

**Completion of Lateral Road Project
in Uttar Pradesh**

1285. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Lateral Road Project running through the Districts of Lakhimpur, Kheri, Bahraich and Gonda onwards in Uttar Pradesh was started as a military project during the time of Indo-China War and is still not fit and complete for the movement of any Military or Civilian Vehicles ; and

(b) in view of its strategic importance, by what time the said project will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (b). The Lateral road project was started not as a military project during Indo-China War but in 1964. The portion passing through the districts of Lakhimpur, Kheri, Bahraich and Gonda has, for the most part, been already completed and the remaining works in Uttar Pradesh are expected to be completed by end of March 1972.

**Ecafe meeting at Manila for Boosting
Regional Trade**

1286. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the annual general meeting of the United Nations' Economic Commission for Asia and Far East held recently at Manila has decided to start a Small Scale Asian Clearance Union this year to boost regional trade ;

(b) if so, the nature and composition of the machinery to be set up for the purpose ; and

(c) whether India has agreed to participate in the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). In pursuance of the Kabul Declaration of the Council of Ministers for Asian Economic Co-operation, a meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the establishment of an Asian

Clearing Union was convened by the ECAFE at Bangkok from March 16 to 22, 1971. At this meeting the Committee finalised a Draft Agreement Establishing an Asian Clearing Union. The Annual Session of the United Nations' Economic Commission for Asia and Far East held at Manila from 20th to 30th April, 1971 noted and expressed satisfaction at these developments.

The ECAFE Secretariat has forwarded to the Regional Member countries, for their consideration, a copy of the draft Agreement of the Asian Clearing Union. A copy of the draft Agreement has been received by India and is being examined. The nature and composition of the machinery of the Asian Clearing Union and India's participation would depend on the provisions of the Agreement finally adopted on the basis of the comments and reactions of the ECAFE member countries.

**बचत योजनाओं में जमा राशि बढ़ाने के लिए
मासिक व्यय की अधिकतम सीमा**

1287. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :
श्री धार० बी० बड़ै :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आर्थिक विषमता दूर करने के विचार से केन्द्रीय सरकार का विचार सरकारी कर्मचारियों के मासिक व्यय पर 1500 रुपये की अधिकतम सीमा लागू करने का है और शेष वेतन बचत योजनाओं में जमा करने के लिये व्यवस्था करने का है ;

(ख) इस समय कितने सरकारी कर्मचारी 1500 रुपये प्रतिमास से अधिक वेतन पा रहे हैं ;

(ग) यदि उपर्युक्त भाग (क) में उल्लिखित अधिकतम सीमा लागू की गई तो बचत योजनाओं में कितनी राशि जमा हो जाने की आशा है ; और