

Declaration of Kiratpur-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kulu Road in Himachal Pradesh as a National Highway

5843. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kiratpur-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kulu Road in Himachal Pradesh, previously with the Directorate General of Border Roads, has been taken over by his Ministry and declared as a National Highway ;

(b) if so, the date when it was taken over ; and

(c) the amount of money earmarked and spent on its maintenance and improvement since it was taken over ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c). Kiratpur-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kulu road is a part of Chandigarh-Manali Road which was declared as a National Highway on the 21st July 1971. The question of earmarking money for, and spending it on the maintenance and improvement of this road will arise only in future.

Proposals for opening new Branches of Banks in Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Saharsa and Purnea

5844. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of branches of the nationalised banks in the district of Darbhanga ; and

(b) what are the proposals for opening new bank branches in the districts of Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Saharsa and Purnea by the end of the present financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) There are 24 offices of the Public Sector banks (including 13 of the nationalised banks) in Darbhanga districts at the end of April, 1971.

(b) Subject to facilities being available, it is intended to open 10 offices in Darbhanga,

9 in Muzaffarpur and 6 in Purnea districts during 1971/early 1972. Saharsa has 16 bank offices already and no application for licence is pending in that district at present.

Aid from United Nations Development Programme for Projects in India

5845. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the names of projects in India for which additional aid has been approved by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : The Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its Session held in June 1971 approved the following three Indian projects for assistance from the United Nations Development Programme :

(i) Demonstration Plant for Irradiation Sterilization of Medical Projects,	\$630,500
(ii) Centre for the Development of Educational Mass Media, and	\$778,700
(iii) Pre-investment Surveying, Mapping and Training, Hyderabad (Phase II).	\$638,300
Total	\$2,047,500

Dilapidated condition of Bridges on National Highways in Mysore

5847. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether many bridges falling on the National Highways are in a dilapidated condition in the Mysore State ;

(b) if so, the names of such bridges ; and

(c) the action taken for their repairs ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) About 184 minor bridges and one major bridge on various National Highways in Mysore are