

**Amount paid for the Construction of
Imphal-Cachar Road**

5902. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount so far paid to the Border Roads Organisation for the construction of the Imphal-Cachar Road ;

(b) whether the amount has exceeded the amount agreed upon in the beginning of the contract ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) At present the Border Roads Organisation are developing only the sector Jiribam-Imphal of new Cachar road. Funds are being provided partly by the Manipur Government and partly by the Border Roads Development Board. Upto the end of March 1971, an amount of Rs. 259 lakhs had been debited against the Manipur Government and another Rs. 178 lakhs had been met from the funds of the Border Roads Organisation, making a total of Rs. 437 lakhs.

(b) the works are being executed by the Border Roads Organisation departmentally and not through contracts. The amount of Rs. 437 lakhs does not exceed the initial assessment of the cost of works.

(c) Does not arise.

**Construction of Cooch-Behar-Fulbari
Rangpur Road by Border Roads
Organisation**

5903. SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cooch-Behar-Fulbari Rangpur Road via Dinhata in the district of Cooch-Behar, West Bengal, is an important border road and defence materials are often times carried on head-loads for protection of the border, being the same an unmetalled road ;

(b) whether his Ministry has received a representation to construct this road a permanent and metalled one under Border Roads Organisation ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government and when the same road will be taken up by the Border Roads Organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) to (c). Government have received a representation for the construction of the road as a permanent metalled road by the Border Roads Organisation. From the defence point of view the existing road communications in the Cooch-Bihar Sector are adequate.

Employment of Local Labour for Construction of Imphal-Cachar Road by Border Roads Organisations

5904. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisation employed local labour in the construction of the Imphal-Cachar Road ; and

(b) if so, the number of unskilled and skilled labour employed, category-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Imphal-Jiribam section of the Imphal-Cachar road is being constructed by the Border Roads Organisation. Some local labour is employed on this sector.

(b) The average number of local unskilled labour (*i.e.* Mazdoors) employed in last 3 months is 156. No skilled labour is employed on this road.

Invitations to Foreign Parliamentary Delegations to Visit Bangla Desh Refugee Camps in India

5905. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether different nations of the World have been invited to send their representatives to visit Bangla Desh refugee camps in India to have first-hand facts about the atrocities of Pakistan army ;

(b) if so, the responses received so far ; and

(c) if not, whether Government are sending invitations to all World Governments for sending Parliamentary Delegations to visit Bangla Desh refugee camps ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). We have invited Parliamentarians,