

Company and to suggest measures to improve the working.

Progress of Cochin Shipyard Project

2496. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether the work on the Cochin shipyard project is progressing as per schedule;

(b) if so, a brief outline of the works completed so far; and

(c) the difficulties experienced in the smooth progress of the works and the steps taken to overcome these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Works like site reclamation, construction of water supply and power supply systems, paint store, oil store training school, laboratory outfitting ware house, shipbuilding division office and mould loft, gate house, main receiving station (civil works) compressor house (including erection of compressors), foundations of hull shop, general store, maintenance store, water cooling pond, sheet piling of building docks and Quays 3 and 1 have been completed

(c) Initial difficulties experienced in pile driving for docks has been overcome. Since indigenous supplier for major presses did not show any progress, alternate arrangements to import the machinery are being made.

Representation from the Chogyal of Sikkim against decision of Assembly of Sikkim

2497. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chogyal of Sikkim has represented to the Government of India against the decision of the Sikkimese Assembly to elect members to the Indian Parliament; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to his opposition?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chogyal has questioned the request of the Sikkim Government seeking participation and representation in our political institutions.

(b) The Government of Sikkim's request flows from the Government of Sikkim Act, 1974 which was unanimously passed by the Sikkim Assembly and was promulgated by the Chogyal on the 4th July, 1974

The Constitution (36th Amendment) Bill passed by our Parliament was only in response to the request of the Government of Sikkim.

Construction of roads in Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya

2498. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of roads being constructed by the Border Road Division in Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya; and

(b) the total expenditure involved in each one of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) The total length of roads being constructed by Border Roads Organisation in these States is as below:—

	Kms
(i) Manipur	454
(ii) Tripura	198
(iii) Meghalaya	244

(b) The total likely expenditure involved on the above roads will be approximately Rs. 18 crores, Rs. 6 crores and Rs. 7 crores respectively.