

Presumably the question relates to the road connecting the Brahmaputra Bridge with National Highway 31 at North Salmara. It will take about 5 years to develop this road.

(b) The Assam P.W.D. and not the C.P.W.D. are in charge of the project. The surveys and investigation of bridge sites started with the current Plan i.e., in 1961. Construction of the road and bridges has not been undertaken yet except in the first few miles near the Brahmaputra Bridge.

(c) The attention of the State Government will be drawn towards this with a request to avoid the acquisition of the Namghar, if possible.

Rail Route on South Bank of Brahmaputra upto Dibrugarh

2284. Shrimati Renuka Barkataki: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have an alternate rail route on the south bank of Brahmaputra upto Dibrugarh in view of the persistent deadlock caused by raids of Naga hostiles on the existing railway lines on this side of Brahmaputra in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Steam Navigation Company

2285. Shrimati Renuka Barkataki: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of crew working under the River and Steam Navigation Company plying between Calcutta and Assam;

(b) what is their citizenship;

(c) how many Indians are working on ships; and

(d) what is the distance the ships have to travel through Pakistan?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) 3339.

(b) Indians (334) and Pakistani (3005).

(c) 334.

(d) 836 miles.

Gulf of Cambay

2286. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hydrographic Committee took decision to survey the Gulf of Cambay some eight years ago;

(b) whether a decision was again taken in 1956 to survey the gulf and finish it within two years;

(c) whether the survey has started;

(d) if not, the reason therefor; and

(e) when the survey will be started?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Aam): (a) to (e). The Hydrographic Survey Committee recommended for the first time in 1956 that the progress survey of the Gulf of Cambay might be taken up as soon as a survey ship was available for the job.

The Committee did not suggest any time limit for the completion of the survey. It has not been possible for the Committee to include the survey in the programme for any of the subsequent survey seasons because they considered it to be of lower priority than other surveys. Particularly, at the last meeting of the Committee in August, 1961, the question of the survey of the Gulf of Cambay was again considered by the Committee and they did not include it in the programme for 1961-62. An officer of the Government of Gujarat, who represented the State Government on the Committee, participated in the discussions. The State Government have again come up with the request