

developed in two phases. In phase I, an international terminal block is being constructed. The construction work is expected to be completed early in 1988, though it will take another few months for the building to be fully commissioned. In phase II, a Control Tower Block is being constructed. The pile foundation work for this Block has already been completed and the work for constructing the super-structure has been awarded recently. It is likely to be completed in about three years.

National Highways

776. Shri S. C. Jha: Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of National Highways in the country; and

(b) the number of such National Highways and their names in Bihar?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) There are 44 National Highways in the country. A statement showing the National Highway numbers and their description is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-434/87].

(b) 3 National Highways, namely, Nos. 28A, 30 and 33 and portions of 4 National Highways, namely, Nos. 2, 28, 31, and 32 are in Bihar.

Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi

777. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation about the standing grievances of the workers employed under the Indian Lac Research Institute, Namkum, Ranchi was submitted on behalf of the I.L.R.I. Workers Union to the Director of the Institute in September, 1980; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon and whether the Director had met any

leader of the Union for discussing the points made out in the said representation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Despite the fact that the Union is an unrecognised one, some of the grievances included in the Union's representation have been redressed going by the general approach of the Government to such cases. These include raising the wages of the casual labourers from Rs. 1.75 to Rs. 2.25 per day, declaring the monthly rated majdoors of the Institute as regular employees in the pay scale of Rs. 70-1-80-EB-1-85 etc. The Director did not meet any leader of the Union. However, the position in respect of the points raised in the representation submitted by the Union was explained to the Superintendent of Labour, Ranchi by the Director.

River Steam Navigation Company

778. Shri Sheopujan Shastri:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the River Steam Navigation Company, Assam has declared a lock-out from the first week of May, 1987;

(b) whether the lock-out declared is illegal; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to lift the lock-out and settle the industrial dispute between the Company and its employees?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.