

(c) if so, the main decisions taken at the Board's meeting and Government's reaction thereto?

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) The Fourth Five Year Plan will, among other things, cover the improvement and development of major ports.

(b) The Fourth Five Year Plan for major ports was one of the items discussed at the meeting of the National Harbour Board held at Calcutta in December, 1965.

(c) There was a general discussion on the Fourth Plan for major ports. It was indicated during the discussion that the Plan which was still in the draft stage would be finalised shortly. It was agreed that the foreign exchange requirements should be brought down to the minimum and that adequate provision should be made for ensuring additional reserve capacity at the major ports. It was also emphasised that measures to improve operational efficiency should be specially considered. It was further agreed that the detailed phasing of the work to be covered by the Fourth Plan should be decided by Government in consultation with the Planning Commission. Necessary action is being taken accordingly.

#### **Strike by Japanese Seamen**

**79. Shri Umanath:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Japanese Seamen's Union had expressed its willingness to exempt India-bound ships carrying aid and essential cargo during their strike in the second half of December, 1965;

(b) whether such a request was made by the Government of India and, if so, with what results; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva**

**Reddy):** (a) There was, a newspaper report to this effect in November, 1965.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No occasion for making such a request arose.

#### **Border Roads**

**80. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:  
Shri Subodh Hansda:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Ramchwar Tantia:  
Shri Himatsingka:**

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

(a) whether the Punjab Government and other State Governments on the Pakistan Borders have represented to the Central Government that the Centre should make adequate financial contributions for the repair of damaged roads on the border due to Indo-Pak war and for the further development of the border road system;

(b) whether Government have examined the request and if so, their reaction; and

(c) whether Government have undertaken any financial liabilities to repair the damaged border roads in Punjab and if so, to what extent?

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A request was received from the Government of Punjab for Central financial assistance for the repair of roads damaged during the recent Indo-Pakistan conflict in the border areas of the State and for the further development of certain other roads in that region. The Government of India have examined the request and agreed to give a grant-in-aid of Rs. 44 lakhs to the State Government for the repair of damaged roads. This decision has also been communicated to the State Government. No proposal for development of new roads has, however, been accepted.