

(b) if so, the details of the works and whether open tender was called for the works and the total estimated cost for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Though the remodelling of the existing terminal building has been carried out by the Civil Aviation Department, Indian Airlines have undertaken the interior decoration and air-conditioning of the Domestic Lounge at their cost. The work relating to interior decoration was entrusted to the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation, a public sector organisation, while that relating to air-conditioning was awarded to Messrs. Voltas on the basis of limited tender invited by Indian Airlines. The likely estimate of cost to the Indian Airlines for the works is Rs. 16.15 lakhs.

Construction of National Highway in Orissa

3180. **SHRI S. KUNDU :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orissa Public Works Department worked as an agent of the Central Government for construction of National Highway from Baripada to Bhubaneswar in Orissa ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the contractors who worked on this project and have completed the work have not been paid their bills since the Centre has stopped paying the balance amount to the Orissa Government charged on further improvement of this portion of the road ;

(c) whether wages of some labourers have not been paid as a result thereof ;

(d) if so, the reasons for non-payment of the bills ; and

(e) the steps that Government are taking to resolve the matter at an early date ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The requisite information has been called for from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Renaming of Lohna Road Station

3181. **SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received any proposal from the Railway Ministry in connection with changing the name of the Lohna Road Station to Bideshwardham on the North Eastern Railway ;

(b) whether his Ministry has responded to it ; and

(c) if so, when and, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : No Sir.

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

Development of Maithili Language

3182. **SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any specific plans for the development of the Maithili language ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : (a) to (c). Under the scheme of "Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the promotion of Indian Languages" all recognised Indian languages including Maithili are eligible to receive financial assistance for their development.

Financial assistance has so far been given for (i) Publication of Maithili dictionary, (ii) Publication of Maithili-English-Hindi dictionary, (iii) Publication of Maithili bibliography, (iv) Holding of All India Maithili Writers' Conference and publication of certain research papers read in that Conference.