

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has offered to invest 1 billion to rebuild and improve National Highways in India;

(b) if so, whether any proposal had been sent to the World Bank in this regard;

(c) if so, the time by which the assistance is likely to be received; and

(d) the details of National Highways to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Sardar Sarovar Project

5602. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government with regard to provide 100 crore rupees for the completion of Sardar Sarovar Yojana during the year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said amount would be provided; and

(c) the concrete steps taken or being taken so as to complete the scheme as per schedule ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Central loan assistance of Rs. 95 crores was approved for Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during 1996-97. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 71.25 crores was released and the said amount was fully utilised by the State Government.

(c) State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are to contribute their share of funds from their budgets for scheduled completion of the project. In addition, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme is being continued in 1997-98 also.

Committee for Shipping Policy

5603. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a High Powered Committee to formulate New Shipping Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof with composition, terms of reference etc. of the committee;

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to complete the assignment; and

(d) the details of major policy decision taken during 1996-97 on Surface Transport Policy and proposal under consideration for 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In order to consider the issues raised by the shipping industry from time to time and to formulate a National Shipping Policy, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Director General of Shipping has been formed which will submit its report by the end of June, 1997. Its composition and terms of reference are given in the attached statement.

(d) During 1996-97, procedure for acquisition of vessels was further simplified. In the current year (1997-98) 10 categories of ships viz. bulk carriers, tankers, dredgers etc. have been brought under the Open General Licence (OGL) from the restricted category.

Statement

Government of India
Ministry of Surface Transport
(Shipping Wing)

No.SD-11018/20/96-MD

3-31997

Office Memorandum

Subject : Constitution of National Shipping Policy Committee.

In order to consider the issues raised by the Indian Shipping Industry from time to time and to formulate a national Shipping Policy, it has been decided to constitute a National Shipping Policy Committee to be headed by Director General (Shipping). The composition of the Committee and terms of reference would be as under :-

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| (i) Shri M.P. Pinto,
DG (Shipping) | Chairman |
| (ii) Shri A.K. Rastogi,
Joint Secretary (Shipping) | Member |
| (iii) Shri K.V. Rao,
Joint Secretary (Ports) or his
representative. | |
| (iv) Shri T.V. Shanbhag,
Chief Controller of Chartering | Member |
| (v) Shri P.K. Srivastava,
C.M.D., SCI. | Member |
| (vi) Shri B.L. Mehta, President INSA. | Member |
| (vii) Shri Rohit Tolani,
Tolani Shipping, Mumbai, | Member |