

sought the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission.

[Translation]

245 National Highway

Repair of Delhi-Calcutta Grand Trunk Road

5982. SHRIBHANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dhanbad-Sasaram portion of the Grand Trunk Road from Delhi to Calcutta is not traffic-worthy and due to the damage caused to the bridge at Varkaha in Hazaribagh district, traffic has been paralysed for more than one month;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to undertake immediate repairs of the road and the bridge; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a). No, Sir. However, due to damage to the diversion of the bridge under construction over Atka Nalla in Km. 326 of NH 2 on 19.7.1991, the traffic on National Highway had to be diverted through State Road.

(b) The traffic over Atka Nalla bridge has now been restored on 25.8.91. Strengthening works for distressed stretch of the road are also being taken up.

(c) No separate funds have been allocated for these works. The expenditure would be met from the overall allocations for National Highways in the State.

[English]

245

Repairing of National Highway No.5 Passing through Andhra Pradesh

5983. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for repairing the National Highways No.5 passing through Andhra Pradesh which is in a very bad condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The extent of damages to the stretches of National Highway No. 5 in Andhra Pradesh affected by heavy rains and cyclones is being assessed and thereafter the proposals for repairs can be considered subject to the availability of funds.

246 Textile

Meeting the Requirements of Handloom and Powerloom Industries

5984. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing cooperative cotton spinning mills in Maharashtra are able to meet the requirements of handloom and powerloom industries;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to meet the requirement of these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a). The requirement of yarn of handloom and powerloom sectors is met not by the cooperative spinning mills alone, but by spinning mills in private as well public sector, as also the composite mills to the extent of availability of surplus available after captive consumption.