

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Member has raised four points. I am in agreement with him that more benefits should be given to ex-servicemen. After all they have given the best years of life to the country. This has been the constant endeavour of this Government and more and more benefits have been given to the ex-servicemen. Sir, I am one with him that there is no limit to giving benefits but everything has to be taken into consideration in view of the totality of funds available and the State Governments also have to contribute about 50 per cent. In this regard I shall be grateful to the hon. Member if he does help us in this regard in getting the State Government's cooperation in coming forward with schemes which will benefit the ex-servicemen because basically the ex-servicemen have to deal with the State Governments more directly than with the Central Government. Regarding children's education up to university level the hon. Member will be happy to know that certain State Governments have given certain reservations in medical, engineering and technical institutes. The other Governments have been asked to give their views. In the last Kendriya Sainik Board Meeting held in July, 1982 by the hon. Raksha Mantri, we have stated that the steps taken by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and other States may be looked into by the other State Governments and they may state their views. Because, they also have to look into their financial positions and their resources—position. Then only they can come forward with their concrete suggestions.

Regarding 'Uniform policy' of all the State Governments, I have mentioned, that we are taking up vigorously with the State Governments. Some of the State Governments have said that they agree with us. Some of the State Governments have gone far ahead. In general, their response has been positive and welcome. In certain States there are constraints even in regard to reservations and various other things, reservations to certain

class of people like handicapped persons and so on where they may not be able to do it fully. But by and large the reaction of the State Governments has been responsive.

13.07 hrs.

PETITION RE: DEVELOPMENT OF DABHOL PORT IN MAHARASHTRA

SHRI J. S. PATIL: (Thane): I beg to present a petition signed by Shri B. N. Gore and others regarding development of Dabhol Port in Maharashtra.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Veerendra Patil to make a statement.

STATEMENT RE: PROPOSAL FOR DELINKING OF THE MANAGMENT OF HALDIA DOCK COMPLEX FROM THAT OF CALCUTTA PORT TRUST

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): Haldia Dock Complex is a part of Calcutta Port and is administered, controlled and managed by the Calcutta Port Trust Board in according with the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. There is a Deputy Chairman at Haldia to whom certain financial and administrative powers have been delegated.

2. In 1975, a two-man Committee, which examined the working and finances of Calcutta Port had, *inter-alia*, recommended that the Calcutta Port Trust should continue to administer and manage the Haldia Dock Complex for about 3-4 years after it is commissioned. Since the Haldia Dock Complex was commissioned in April, 1977, it was considered appropriate to review the present arrangement on the basis of the experience gained.