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(b) National Highway are selected on the basis of certain criteria and guidelines one of them being Roads connecting Major Ports with their hinterland in one or more States. Vadinar is not a Major Port as yet and even the limited infrastructure for the Port is yet to be developed and as such the proposed road could not be considered for inclusion as a National Highway apart from other factors.

Written Answers

[Translation]

Udaipur Byepass

*692. SHRI GULABCHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) since when the proposal for construction of a byepass on National Highway Number 8 in Udaipur, Rajasthan is under consideration of the Government and the action taken thereon so far:
- (b) whether Government have given clearance for its constructions;
- (c) if so, when and the amount allocated for this purpose; and
- (d) the time by which construction work thereon is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-PORT (SHRIK.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) An estimate for land acquisition for Udaipur Byepass on NH 8 was received from the Rajasthan Government in October 1985. The Ministry approved the byepass alignment and the land acquisition estimate in September 1986. Land acquisition is reported to have been completed just recently.

(b) to (d). An estimate for survey, investigations and preparation of the project for Udaipur Byepass was sanctioned by the Ministry for Rs. 5.89 lakhs in December

1989. The construction of the byepass will be considered during the 8th Plan after it is finalised and survey and investigations have been completed. It is too early to indicate the construction schedule of the project.

(English)

Demarcation of Maritime Boundary Between India and Sri Lanka

*693. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been persistent demand to demarcate clearly the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka for easier identification: and
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AF-FAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL). (a) The man time boundary between India and Sri Lanka has already been de-limited by the two Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976. Because of incidents involving inadvertent straying of Indian fishermen into Sri Lanka waters, there have been requests for measures to enable easier identification of the maritime boundary.

(b) Government are considering various proposals in this regard.

Restructuring of Poverty Alleviation **Programme**

- *694. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal for further restructuring the poverty alleviation programmes like IRDP, NREP, RLEGP, etc.; and