

Finance thought it necessary that it should be kept in abeyance for some time. Again, we have referred it back to the Ministry of Finance for reconsideration about its classification as a National Highway and I hope it will be done very soon.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Since it is a favourable attention, I would like to know as to what is the estimated expenditure likely to be involved in undertaking this scheme and which are the important cities the road is likely to connect ?

SHRI OM MEHTA : The development of the road is estimated to cost Rs. 22.39 crores.

About the second question, I will require notice. If he wants information about the States through which this road will pass, I can give that. It will be passing through Maharashtra, Kerala, Goa and Mysore. But to give the names of the cities, I want notice. Almost all the coastal towns it should connect.

Expansion of National Highway from Darbhanga to Forbesganj

*1488. **SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA** : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction of a National Highway from Amingaon to Forbesganj is not only sanctioned but it is also completed upto Darbhanga in Bihar ;

(b) whether the expansion of the same from Darbhanga to Forbesganj via Jhanjharpur and Nartiya in the District of Darbhanga is being delayed ;

(c) if so, what are the factors that led to its delay ; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to complete its construction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Persumably, the Member is referring to the Bihar portion of the Bareilly-Amingaon

Lateral Road. There is a sanctioned alignment of this lateral road in Bihar between Salemgarh (on UP/Bihar border) and Galgolia (on Bihar/West Bengal border). The Salemgarh-Purnea section of this alignment in Bihar is already a N.H. route on which work between Salemgarh and Muzaffarpur is nearing completion except the bridge on river Gandak at Dumariaghat which is in progress. Work between Muzaffarpur and Purnea has already been completed—partly under some other programmes and partly under the Lateral Road Programme. Similarly work on the remaining alignment of the Lateral Road between Purnea and Galgolia, which is a State road, is also nearing completion. In addition, the Lateral Road Project also provides, *inter alia*, for the construction of two link roads connecting Muzaffarpur with Darbhanga and Arraria with Forbesganj. Work on these link roads is nearing completion. There was also a proposal to connect Darbhanga with Forbesganj via Maricha/Dagmara to provide a more northerly route for the Lateral road. Work on Forbesganj-Darbhang link via Maricha/Dagmara could not be taken up so far as it was dependent upon the fixation of a site for the construction of a bridge over Kosi and later also because of financial limitations. However, in January 1971, a Committee consisting of the representatives of the Ministries of Shipping and Transport, Finance, Defence, and the Planning Commission was constituted to consider ways and means to finance the construction of the Darbhanga-Forbesganj link road with a major bridge over the Kosi. The report of the Committee is awaited.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : It is said in the statement that a committee consisting of the representatives of the Ministries of Shipping & Transport, Finance, Defence and the Planning Commission was constituted and its report is awaited. I would, therefore, like to know from the Minister how long it will take for the committee to submit its report.

SHRI OM MEHTA : Very soon the report will be there.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : Since it is a defence oriented scheme and it is very important from the strategic point of view also, will efforts on the part of the

Government be made to include it in Annexure I of the Strategic Roads Programme so that the missing links be completed and the purpose behind the construction of the entire scheme be served.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING & TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : The scheme is essentially economically oriented and the other things are really incidental. In any case this road provides a very essential link between Bareilly on the one hand and Amingaon on the other. It is a 1100-mile road.

So far as the missing links are concerned, we shall certainly try to fill them up as best as we can after the committee submits its report about the financing of the road.

Arrangements for Precautionary check-up of Jumbo Jets

*1490. **SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the crack-up of a 747 Jumbo Jet Airliner during an attempted take-off from Tokyo ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have arranged for a competent precautionary check-up of Air India Jumbo Jets ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Boeing Company has informed Air-India of an incident to a 747 aircraft at Tokyo on 20th June, 1971, when the aircraft veered off the runway during take off and sustained damage to its landing gears and tyres. After an investigation, the Company has recommended improved operational procedures in the steering system during take off, and has also proposed some modification to the steering system. This will be incorporated on Air-India's 747 aircraft.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister say whether any complete and independent check-up of these aircrafts is proposed in view of the proposed acquisition of more such crafts by IAC ?

DR. KARAN SINGH : It so often happens that when a new model is introduced from time to time the manufacturers suggest certain amendments and changes for the operational efficiency and all that. And, because the manufacturers are the people who know about such things, I do not think it is of any particular advantage to go elsewhere. But we will certainly go carefully into these matters when the details are received from the companies concerned

श्री श्री० पी० नारयण : जम्बो जेट को क्षेत्र में आए हुए काफी समय हो गया है। जिस तरह की खराबी की वजह से टोकियो में यह दुर्घटना हुई, क्या उस तरह की खराबी इस दौरान में सामने नहीं आई, क्योंकि मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि इनवेस्टिगेशन के बाद कम्पनी ने कुछ परिवर्तनों का सुझाव दिया है ?

डा० कर्ण सिंह : जब से जम्बो जेट आरम्भ हुआ है, तबसे उसने हजारों उड़ानें की होंगी। इस प्रकार की जो एक दुर्घटना हुई है, वंसी कोई दुर्घटना हमारे जहाज में नहीं हुई—और भाशा है कि न ही होगी। जहाँ कहीं ऐसी दुर्घटना होती है, मैनेफैक्चरर्स उसकी सूचना भेजे देते हैं, ताकि सब अपनी ओर से विचार रखें और उसमें जो तब्दीलियाँ करनी हों, वे की जायें।

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : From our experience for the last few months, have we noticed any other mechanical defect in the jumbo jets ? If so, what corrections are being taken ?

DR. KARAN SINGH : There is no question of mechanical defects, but inside the plane certain changes may have to be made, for example, the amount of galley space for the food to be prepared, for the restaurant arrangements and so on, but no mechanical defects have come to our notice.

Monopoly Business Houses entering Hotel Business on a Chain Basis

*1493. **SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Government regarding