

(b) if so, from which date such upgradation will be given effect to ; and

(c) the revised classification that is proposed to be made in respect of those cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Financial Help for Teaching Tamil Language to Non-Tamilians

212. SHRI SAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals have been received by his Ministry from voluntary organisations, seeking financial assistance in the matter of producing Linguaphone records for teaching Tamil Language to non-Tamilians ; and

(b) if so, the nature of assistance rendered so far ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI SIDDHARTHA SHANKAR RAY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Beautification of Hirakud in Orissa for Tourist Attraction

213. SHRI P. G. DEB : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Hirakud in Orissa State is a good site for developing as a place of tourist attraction ;

(b) whether Government propose to make it more attractive for the foreign tourists by beautifying it ;

(c) if so, when and how the area is to be developed ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) to (d). Government are aware of the tourist attraction of Hirakud. The construction of a Tourist Bungalow at Sambhalpur has been included in the Tourism schemes to be taken up by the State Government during the Fourth Plan period.

Enquiry into Assistance given to Gujarat for Relief Works in Scarcity Areas

214. SHRI P. M. JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount granted to different Districts of Gujarat including Banas Kantha for relief works in scarcity areas during the year 1968-69 ;

(b) whether Government have received any information concerning defalcation and misappropriation of funds in executing these relief works in Banas Kantha Districts; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Central assistance totalling Rs. 4.50 crores was sanctioned to the Government of Gujarat during 1968-69 towards drought relief expenditure in the State. Central assistance to States towards expenditure on natural calamities relief measures, including drought relief measures, is sanctioned on the basis of the overall expenditure and does not relate to specific areas or districts.

(b) and (c). The Government of Gujarat have reported that the instances of irregularities in the execution of relief works in Banaskantha district noticed by the Enquiry Committee set up by the District Panchayat are being enquired into by the State Anti-Corruption Bureau. It has been reported that four complaints have so far been filed, eight officers suspended and two others discharged from service. Central assistance to States is finalised on the basis of the certified figures of audited expenditure and this is the normal manner in which the Government of India ensure proper utilisation of assistance sanctioned by them.

Amount Sanctioned and Spent on the Widening of National Highway No. 34 (Calcutta-Siliguri)

215. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount sanctioned and