

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN):** (a) Jawahar Lal Nehru Port was inaugurated on 26.5.89. A number of teething operational problems like design defects, poor workmanship, inadequate material specifications, etc. were noticed. Normally such equipment takes about one to two years to become fully operational. It is for this reason that cargo handling in Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust has been less than the installed capacity.

(b) and (c). M.M.T.C. report has not been received either by the Port or by the Ministry. However, complaints/suggestions received in day to day functioning from M.M.T.C, users and other sources are being looked into and all possible remedial measures are taken such as rectification of defects in the mechanical equipments, temporary relaxation in free time for storage, etc.

[*Translation*]

#### **Repair of National Highway Nos. 28 and 31.**

583. **SHRI RAJMANGAL MISHRA:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for carrying out special repairs of National Highway No. 28 at Gopalganj and National Highway No. 31 from Barauni to Lagayat-Katihar during 1989-90;

(b) the amount provided for the repairs of these roads;

(c) whether the stretches of the above roads have been repaired and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for

early completion of the repairs on these roads?

**THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN):** (a) Estimates amounting to Rs. 7.80 lakhs and Rs. 55.64 lakhs respectively were sanctioned in 1989-90 for carrying out Special Repairs/Flood Damage Repair works on National Highway No. 28 (Piprakothi-Bihar/UP Border Section passing through Gopalganj) and National Highway No. 31 from Barauni to Purnea (Lagayat-Katihar portion is not a part of the national highway).

(b) Against the above sanctions, Rs. 2 lakhs were released for National Highway No. 28 in 1989-90 and Rs. 11.39 lakhs for National Highway No. 31. The balance amounts have been released recently.

(c) and (d). As per information given by the State Public Works Department, the repair works are in progress and they are taking steps to complete them speedily.

[*English*]

#### **Setting up of Varadoor Telephone Exchange**

584. **SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from the Karshaka Samrakshana Samithi, Varadoor, Kerala State for providing better telecommunication facilities in Varadoor, Kerala;

(b) if so, when the Varadoor Telephone exchange is likely to be constructed and facilities for inter-alling and group dialling with Kalpetta, Sultans Battery, Meenangadi, Panamaram, Kenichira and Palimukku introduced;

(c) when STD channel from Varadoor to