

Construction of Express way around NCT Region

3338. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what concrete steps are being taken up in the form of constructing expressways or by-passes around NCT Region to decongest the Delhi roads; and

(b) if not, how Government plan to smoothen the traffic movement in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Replacement of Timber Bridges in Tripura

3339. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that availability of timber for bridges is constrained due to Government Order;

(b) whether the State Government of Tripura has proposed for replacement of the timber bridges in the State by permanent Referral Concrete (R.C.) bridges; and

(c) if so, the response of the Central Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government's proposals for replacement of four timber bridges by RCC have already been sanctioned with the Central share of Rs. 301.11 lakhs under E and I Scheme.

Conversion of World Bank Loan to J.N.P.T. into Equity

3340. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert entire loan provided by World Bank to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust into equity at the time of corporatising the port;

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- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government are examining other options with regard to repayment of World Bank loan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government propose to amend Major Port Trust Act, 1993 for this purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (f) The Government have decided to corporatise the major ports starting with Jawaharlal Nehru Port. The modalities and equity structure in respect of Jawaharlal Nehru Port is yet to be formulated.

Purchase of Oil Carriers by SCI

3341. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has placed order for purchase of four Aframax Oil Carriers from South Korean based Hyundai Shipyard;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the SCI has made any external commercial borrowing for this purpose during 1999-2000;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the total oil carrier capacity of Shipping Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The SCI has a fleet of 27 crude oil tankers of 22.93 lakhs DWT.