

(e) the amount of fund to be spent in this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) By March, 2009 according to present assessment.

(b) Estimated cost of the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) is about Rs. 54,000 crores.

(c) and (d) The tentative alignment of the corridor in the state of Assam is as follow:—

NH No.	Section
54	Silchar-Daboka
36	Daboka-Nowgong
37	Nowgong-Guwahati
31	Guwahati to Assam/West Bengal Border

(e) About Rs. 1000 crores.

#### Construction of New Ports

754. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to construct new ports to boost exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target set up for constructing new Ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) A new port at Ennore, 25 kms. north of Chennai, is being constructed at an estimated revised cost of Rs. 927.10 crores with assistance from Asian Development Bank with a capacity to handle 16 million tonnes of coal. The port is expected to be commissioned by July, 2000.

Steps have also been taken to create additional capacity in the existing major ports under various Plan schemes to meet the growing demand of the trade.