

training and consequently, the patient care and the hospital work suffered, more so in this institution where all the resident doctors are women.

#### De-recognition of CRR I Staff Association

2081. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Road Research Institute (CRR I) Staff Association, New Delhi has been de-recognised by its management;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the CRR I management has recently issued a circular warning the employees not to form Trade Union despite a Supreme Court judgement in February, 1978 declaring all Research Institutions as "Industry" for the purpose of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Road Research Institute continue recognising the Staff Association of the Institute as a service association.

(c) and (d) The Central Road Research Institute did issue a circular to the Members of their staff in September 1980 cautioning them against their participating in illegal trade union activities and participating in their demonstrations. The Central Road Research Institute, have, however, been advised to seek a further clarification in the matter from the Registrar of Trade Unions.

#### Coastal Highway in Saurashtra

2082. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop a Coastal Highway as part of National Highway in Saurashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal including proposed financial allocation and time schedule of its construction; and

(c) whether Government of Gujarat have submitted a proposal to the Government of India in this regard; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under the consideration of Government of India at present. It is a State Road and the Government of Gujarat are, therefore, primarily concerned with its development. However, in order to assist them financially in the development of this road, the Government of India have sanctioned works of a total cost of Rs. 7.60 crores from the Central Road Fund and under the Central Aid Programme of State Roads of inter-State or Economic Importance so far.

(c) At the time of finalisation of 5th Plan, the Gujarat Government had proposed some roads for inclusion in the N. H. System which included Kandla-Bombay portion of Coastal Highway. However, due to financial stringency and other priority considerations the State Government's request could not be acceded to.

#### National Highways

2083. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways in the country and the length of each;

(b) the number of Highways in the Northern Eastern region;

(c) whether extension and improvement of the existing Highways in this region is the responsibility of the Union Government; and