

to the West Bengal Government for the first three years of the Fifth Plan inclusive of the advance Plan assistance for acceleration of the execution of irrigation and power projects, meeting expenditure necessitated by natural calamities etc. was Rs. 156.76 crores. As against this, the actual release was Rs. 151.86 crores. This was based on the information supplied by the State Government in regard to the actual expenditure in different sectors and its request for release of an advance assistance of Rs. 4.50 crores in 1976-77 out of the allocation for 1977-78.

Transfer of surplus land under the Calcutta Port Trust to West Bengal

1327. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government have urged upon the Central Government to transfer 174 acres of surplus land at Haldia belonging to the Calcutta Port Trust to that Government; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter was discussed recently between the Union Minister for Shipping and Transport and the Chief Minister of West Bengal to sort out the various issues involved.

Amendment of the Land Acquisition Act

1328. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 as recently proposed by the West Bengal Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): A proposal made by the Government of West Bengal to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Population of Gond Gowari and Gowari Communities in Maharashtra

1329. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the population of the Gond Gowari community which has been shown as a tribe in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Maharashtra; and

(b) what is the population of "Gowari" community in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) At the 1971 Census 'Gond Gowari' community was enumerated along with many other communities under the common name 'Gond', and as such separate figure for 'Gond Gowari' is not available.

(b) 'Gowari' being not listed as a Scheduled Tribe in Maharashtra, separate population figures for this community are not available.

Bhavnagar-Tarapur National Highway

1330. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated cost of construction of the Bhavnagar-Tarapur National Highway by the shortest route;

(b) what expenses have so far been incurred on this project; and

(c) what are the details of the work on the above highway completed so far and by when the entire highway is likely to be completed?