

**Statement**

Allotments for flood damage repairs to National Highways are made under two categories viz. 'Continuing' flood damage repairs and 'New works'. Funds for these works are released on the basis of admissibility determined through scrutiny of detailed estimates received from States, progress of expenditure and availability of resources.

For Gujarat, a sum of Rs. 41.11 lakhs has been allotted in 1975-76 keeping in view the aforesaid factors for 'Continuing' works of repairs of damages due to floods occurring prior to 1975 after scrutinising the requirement of Rs. 69.70 lakhs projected by the Government of Gujarat. As regards repairs to damages by 1975 floods, estimates amounting to Rs. 16.20 lakhs for temporary restoration have been approved against which a sum of Rs. 15.00 lakhs has been allotted. Some estimates have been returned to the State Government for clarification and same are in the process of scrutiny.

**Irimpanam-Kalamasserry road in Kerala**

\*146. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala Government have requested the Central Government for taking up the work on the Irimpanam-Kalamasserry road and including it under the C.R.F. Special Reserve Fund to be implemented during the Fifth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON):

(a) and (b) Although the Kerala Government have not proposed the road for inclusion under the C.R.F. Special Reserve, they had proposed its inclusion under the programme of "Special Area Development Schemes and Central Ministries requirements" during the Fifth Plan. The State Government were informed in June 1974 that this programme was meant for road projects sponsored by the Ministries of the Govt. of India and that no financial assistance against this programme could, therefore, be considered unless the road project was sponsored by a Ministry of the Government of India.

**Court of enquiry in Chasnala Mines Disaster**

\*147. SHRI KALYAN ROY :

SHRI BHOLA PRASAD :

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the criticism arising because of engagement of a number of lawyers by the IISCO management in the Chasnala Court of Enquiry;

(b) if so, the names of lawyers who have been engaged by the IISCO management for the purpose;

(c) what are their respective fees per day and the details of the legal expenses so far incurred by the IISCO management on that account;

(d) whether it is a fact that no lawyer was engaged by the IISCO management for the Jitpur Court of Enquiry; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons for engagement of lawyers for the Chasnala Court of Enquiry ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV):

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) to (c) Government's attention has been drawn to the appointment of lawyers by the Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. in the Chasnala Court of Inquiry and it was suggested to the Government that lawyers should not be appointed but the company was of the view that in order to present the facts of the case in such a way that there is no ambiguity or misunderstanding, it was necessary to engage eminent and experienced lawyers to assist the Court of Inquiry. The following lawyers have been appointed :

(1) Shri Sudhir Banerjee

(2) Shri Amiya Kumar Banerjee.

(3) Shri B. Joshi.

(4) Shri Srivastava.

(5) Shri R. Chaudhuri

They shall be paid their usual fees by the Company. No amounts have yet been paid.