

might be achieved by the end of March, 1975, provided the requirements of inputs, power and transport are met adequately in the remaining months. Close and constant liaison is, therefore, being maintained with the Department of Coal in regard to the production and supply of coking coal, with the Ministry of Energy, authorities of D.V.C. and State Governments concerned to ensure maximum supply of power to the steel plants and with the Ministry of Railways to ensure satisfactory movement by Rail of essential inputs and saleables.]

Air Chief Marshal's interview with the correspondent of 'Vayuyan'

*790. SHRI M. KADERSHAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air Chief Marshal obtained Government's prior permission before giving a recent interview to the correspondent of 'Vayuyan' regarding effectiveness of Indian Air Force Transport planes; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to lay down guidelines for the service officers in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) No Sir. It may, however, be added that in the interview the reference was to the IAF transport planes, Dakota and Packet having become very old and requiring retirement. The deficiencies with regard to the transport aircraft have already been mentioned in the Ministry's Annual Report for the year 1969-70.

(b) Not necessary as rules already exist on the subject.

Central Loan Assistance for Roads in Maharashtra

*791. SHRI DEORAO PATIL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government have requested the Central Government for inclusion of some roads in the

Central Loan Assistance programme of Inter-state roads; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the amount of grant given under the Central Loan Assistance programme for these roads ?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT : (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government have suggested the following three projects for financial assistance under the Central Aid Programme of State Roads of inter-State or economic importance during the Fifth Plan :

Name of work	Approximate cost
1. Tambani Ghat Road to connect Poona with Dighi Harbour	Rs. 2.00 crores
2. Construction of a Road from Khandus to Bhimsharkar	Rs. 1.00 crores
3. Construction of a coastal Highway from Rewas to Redi	Rs. 7.00 crores

As formulation of detailed programmes for the 5th Plan is still in a preparatory stage, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the extent to which the projects referred to above will be finally included under the afore-said programme during the 5th Plan.

American Senator's Visit to J&K State

*792. SHRI S. C. ANGRE :
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR :
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :
SHRI O. P. TYAGI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared