

LINK ROAD FROM JAKHALABANDHA TO TEZPUR

198. SHIRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Central Government are aware of the demand of the Government and the people of Assam for recognising the road linking the Assam South Trunk National Highway and the Assam North Trunk National Highway via Sil-ghat (road from Jakhalabandha to Tezpur) as a National Highway; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and whether Government are considering the proposal of the Assam Govt, for constructing a second bridge over the Brahmaputra river at Silghat?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) :

(a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Proposals submitted by Assam Government for new additions to the existing N. H. System in the Fifth Plan include, *inter-alia* a link road from Jakhalabandha on National Highway No. 37 to Tezpur on the North Trunk Road which is a State road. This proposed link road involves also the construction of a bridge over the Brahmaputra. These proposals will have to be considered along with similar proposals received from all other States keeping in view the funds available for the purpose, *inter-se* priorities of the various proposals on an all-India basis and the criteria laid down for classifying roads as National Highways. Since the formulation of the Fifth Five Year Plan is in a preparatory stage, it is not possible at present to indicate the extent to which any proposal for new additions to the existing National Highway System could be accepted in that Plan.

GARIBI HATAO PROGRAMME

-199. SHRI DEBANANDA AM AT :
SHRI M. K. MOHTA : SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : SHRI K. C. PANDA : SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL : SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the social welfare schemes formulated as part of the Garibi Hatao programme;

(b) the total budget allocations made on these schemes and the extent to which allocated amounts have been utilised in the implementation of these schemes;

(c) whether Government's attention has been invited to a report published in the Times of India dated the 30th March, 1973 to the effect that many of the schemes have not even got off the ground; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (d) Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Social welfare schemes in the Fourth Plan are directed to the welfare of the physically and socially handicapped, and women and children from vulnerable sections of the community in tribal and rural areas and urban slums. The major schemes in the Central Sector of the Fourth Plan are Family and Child Welfare Projects, Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations by the Central Social Welfare Board, Welfare of Destitute Children and Destitute Women, Welfare of the

physically Handicapped, Pre-Vocational Training Centre, Nutrition Feeding through Balwadis and Special Nutrition Programme.

The total Central Sector Fourth Plan outlay for Social Welfare is Rs. 29.43 crores. In addition, the special Nutrition programme, started in 1970-71 as a non-plan scheme, was brought under the plan from 1971-72. The budget allocation for this programme in the plan is Rs. 47.53 crores. Thus the total Central Sector Plan outlay comes to Rs. 76.96 crores. The budgeted outlay is Rs. 71.63 crores and the anticipated expenditure is Rs. 65 crores.

The Government have seen the news report in the Times of India dated 30th March, 1973. It is true that in respect of certain social welfare schemes, there was non-utilisation or under-utilisation of funds. Due to financial constraints, the budget allocation for social welfare in 1973-74 is only Rs. 23 crores. The cut discouraged commencement of new schemes and starting of additional projects/centres. The non-utilisation or under-utilisation of funds for other schemes has been due to the difficulties inherent in planning and implementing welfare schemes through State Governments and a variety of welfare organisations spread over the country. Difficulties have been experienced due to inaccessibility of areas, particularly hilly areas, which slow down the pace of implementation. There is also the factor of capacity of State Governments and voluntary organisations to implement schemes. Certain schemes like the welfare of destitute women needed modification in the light of response from the voluntary organisations. In some cases, procedural formalities of taking over land, buildings and equipment etc. proved time-consuming.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, some significant achievements were made which brought sizeable benefit to the people. For example, in the special nutrition programmes, there were about 21.38 lakhs beneficiaries in 1971-72 and 35.10 lakh beneficiaries in 1972-73. In the current year every effort will be made to ensure

that on-going programmes do not suffer, and if the financial situation improves, Government would come to the Parliament for supplementary grants.

NATIONAL POLICY ON EDUCATION

200. SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA : SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : SHRI J. S. TILAK : SHRI KRISHAN KANT : DR. Z. A. AHMAD : SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on National Policy on Education; and

Cb) if so, what are its salient features?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROFESSOR S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Education Commission (1964-66) were considered by the Government and its decisions are included in the Resolution on the National Policy on Education which was laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1968. Copies of the Resolution are available in the Parliament Library. Based on this National Policy on Education, the Central Advisory Board of Education has prepared proposals for the development of education in the Fifth Five-Year Plan. These are now under the consideration of the Planning Commission and Government.

DECLARATION OF NEW NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

201. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: SHRI BALRAM DAS :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal, under Government's consideration for declaring new national highways in the country; .