

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) No specific proposals in this regard have been received from the Government of Cuba.

(b) and (c) There is no ban on trading with Cuba.

**ATTACK ON INDIAN IMMIGRANTS IN LONDON BY MAOISTS**

487. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reported Maoists' activities in London attacking Indian immigrants in a number of cases ; and

(b) if so, what are the reactions of Government in his regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have no such information

(b) Does not arise.

**ELECTRIFICATION OF VILLAGES IN WEST BENGAL**

488. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state

(a) the number of villages which have so far been electrified in West Bengal ;

(b) to what extent the benefit of rural electrification has been diverted for agriculture ; and

(c) what is the target of rural electrification in West Bengal during the next two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) 2670 villages have been electrified up to 31st March, 1970.

(b) Since 1965-67, the rural electrification schemes in the State of West Bengal and in other States have been reoriented with a bias towards energisation of agricultural pump-sets. In West

Bengal 1291 tubewells/pumpsets have been energised up to 31st March, 1970.

(c) From the State Plan outlays, it is proposed to energise 1000 pumpsets/tubewells and electrify 300 villages in 1970-71 and energise 3000 pumpsets/tubewells and electrify 300 villages during 1971-72. In addition funds would be provided by the Rural Electrification Corporation to the West Bengal State Electricity Board and other State Electricity Boards for rural electrification schemes with a bias towards energisation of pumpsets. So far the Rural Electrification Corporation have sanctioned Rs. 150.69 lakhs for electrification of 552 villages and energisation of 2309 pumpsets in West Bengal.

**REPRESENTATION OF ENGINEERING OFFICERS IN CENTRAL WATER AND POWER COMMISSION**

489. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE : SHRI GANESHT LAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the engineering officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes serving in the Central Water and Power Commission for considerable length of time and appointed as direct recruits through competition by the Union Public Service Commission have recently represented to Government for fixation of their seniority in accordance with the Home Ministry's 1959 General Principles of Seniority ;

(b) if so, what decision Government have taken on their representation ;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not so far modified its old rules of seniority in the light of the Home Ministry's General Principles of Seniority of 1959, though more than 10 years have already elapsed with the result that so many officers are still being deprived of their legitimate claims for seniority and promotion ; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The

general principles laid down by the Ministry of Home Affairs for determining seniority of various categories of officers belonging to Central Services are not applicable in the case of Class I and Class II officers of the Central Water and Power Commission. Their *inter se* seniority is determined under the rules which had earlier been framed by the Ministry of Irrigation & Power in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs. As a result of certain representations received recently, the matter is under review.

### †राष्ट्रीय राजपथ का निर्माण

113. श्री सूरज प्रसाद : क्या वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विश्व बैंक के एक अध्ययन दल ने काठमांडू घाटी को नेपाल की तराई, भारत और विश्व के अन्य भागों से मिलाने के लिए एक राजपथ का निर्माण करने का सुझाव दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर कितना खर्च होने का अनुमान है ; और

(ग) यह खर्चा किन-किन देशों द्वारा वहन किया जायेगा ?

### ‡[CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY

113. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a study team of the World Bank has made a suggestion for the construction of a National Highway to link the Kathmandu Valley with Terai of Nepal, India and other parts of the world ;

(b) if so, what is the estimate of expenditure involved ; and

(c) the names of the countries which will bear this expenditure ?]

वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) बताया जाता है कि नेपाल राजमार्ग में आकर मिलने वाली छोटी छोटी

सड़क बनाने की सभावना का अध्ययन करने के लिए 19 फरवरी, 1970 को नेपाल सरकार और संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास निधि के बीच एक करार पर हस्ताक्षर हुए हैं। अखबार की इन खबरों को अस्वीकार किया गया है कि विश्व बैंक के विशेषज्ञों ने काठमांडू घाटी को नेपाल की तराई, भारत और विश्व के शेष भागों से मिलाने वाला एक वैकल्पिक राजमार्ग बनाने का सुझाव दिया था।

(ख) चूंकि यह योजना अभी क्रियान्वयन के लिए स्वीकार नहीं हुई है और अभी तो अध्ययन करके इसकी संभावना का पता ही लगाया जाता है, इसलिए अभी यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि इस पर कितना खर्च होगा और कौन यह खर्च वहन करेगा।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

‡[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) An Agreement is reported to have been signed on 19th February, 1970 between Government of Nepal and the United Nations Development Fund for the execution of a road feasibility study for feeder roads to the Nepal Trunk Road System. Press reports that the World Bank experts had suggested the construction of an alternate highway linking Kathmandu Valley with Nepal Terai, India and the rest of the world have been denied.

(b) As the scheme has not yet been accepted for implementation, and only a feasibility study is contemplated, details regarding the quantum of expenditure and the agency which will bear the cost are not yet available.

(c) Does not arise.]

### †[SURVEY OF OVERSEAS TRANSPORT

157. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Operations Research Group of the Sarabhai Management