

BUCKINGHAM CANAL

633. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Buckingham Canal, the inter-State waterway running between Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu is heavily silted and has become useless for boat traffic; and

(b) if so, whether any amount has been sanctioned by the Government of India for desilting work and what is the progress made in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) At present the North and South Buckingham Canals have depths of about 3 feet and 2 feet respectively. It has been reported that the Canal has silted in a number of places. The Government of India sanctioned grants aggregating Rs. 13.82 lakhs during the Third Five Year Plan for the acquisition of two dredgers one by each State Government and the provision of terminal facilities. Both the dredgers have been acquired and it has been reported by the State Governments that the removal of silt is being undertaken by them periodically wherever necessary.

TENDENCY TOWARDS LAWLESSNESS

634. SHRI S. D. MISRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Minister has been drawn to the growing tendency towards lawlessness in the various parts of the country and whether danger to life and property of law abiding citizens is increasing and if so, the action contemplated to be taken to mitigate the evil; and

(b) whether any study has been or is being undertaken to find out the causes of growing lawlessness throughout the country as well as in urban towns including the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) :

(a) and (b) Government view with serious concern the numerous violations of law in recent agitations and disturbances in different parts of the country.

Under the Constitution, State Governments are entrusted with the responsibility for public order, police and administration of justice. Necessary administrative and legal steps are taken by them to prevent violent agitations and to deal firmly with any manifestations of violence. The State Governments send periodical reports on the law and order situation to the Government of India who review trends in the incidents of violence in various spheres of our national life. Central Government also provide reasonable assistance to State Governments whenever sought.

635. [Transferred to the 2nd December, 1969.]

CALCUTTA PORT

636. SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN GUPTA :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state what further steps are being taken by Government for the improvement of Calcutta Port?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : The Major Scheme currently under execution for the improvement of Calcutta Port is the construction of a supplementary dock system at Haldia. An oil jetty to cater to the requirements of deep drafted oil tankers at Haldia has already been brought into use. The new Dock system is expected to be commissioned in 1971. Orders have been placed for the supply of ore and coal loading plants for installation at the Dock. A proposal to acquire a new Estuarine dredger for undertaking additional dredging in the estuary is under consideration.

MAO POSTERS IN BANGALORE

637. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mao posters made their appearance in Bangalore on the eve of Gandhi Centenary celebrations there; and

(b) if so, whether any report from the Government of Mysore has since been received by the Union Government in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) According to information received from the Government of Mysore on October 4, 1969 manuscript wall posters in English, containing revolutionary communist propaganda slogans and salutations to Mao etc. were found pasted on the walls of General Post Office, the bus shelter opposite the Central Telegraph Office and near the Income-Tax Office in Bangalore.

V. I. P. ROOMS AT AIRPORTS FOR USE BY AILING M.Ps.

638. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to provide facilities for taking rest to the ailing Members of Parliament and heart patients who are put to long stays at the airports; and

(b) whether the Members of Parliament are prohibited from making use of the V. I. P. rooms at the airports; if so, whether there is any proposal to issue permits to the ailing M.Ps. to use the V. I. P. rooms?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) Reserved lounges exist at most of the aerodromes and there are also medical facilities at the international airports

(b) No. Sir.

ADDITIONAL I CLASS RAILWAY PASS FOR M.Ps. HAVING TWO WIVES.

639. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to issue an additional I Class Railway Pass to those Members of Parliament who have two wives; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI K. RAGHURAMIAH) : (a) No.

(b) The Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 as amended provides for the issue of one free non-transferable first Class Railway Pass for the spouse, if any of the Member to travel from the usual place of residence of the Member to Delhi and back, once during every session.

COMMONWEALTH BOARD FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION

640. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Commonwealth Board for Engineering Education through the joint effort of Commonwealth countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to set up a Joint Indo-British Committee for Education, including technical education for maintaining close contact between the two countries and for exchange of information and ideas in this field. Full details of the committee have yet to be worked out.

ROAD RESEARCH CENTRE FOR KERALA

641. SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for the establishment of a Road Research Centre from the Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposal; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government to the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, but for the establishment of a Testing and Control laboratory for Road and Bridge works only.