

hon. Minister has said, and that the ' provision was made but nothing on it has practically been spent, will the Government give us an assurance that this problem will be decided very soon so that we know exactly what the position is?

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Sir, I quite appreciate the desire of my friends of those areas to have a broad-gauge link to Kandla. On that the Railways have no doubt at all. They do want to link up Kandla with broad-gauge. The question has arisen now that in view of the refinery there, what exactly would be the traffic that Kandla would offer. Therefore we are in touch with the Transport Ministry and they have given us some figures with regard to the traffic that is available. It is because of that we ordered a fresh traffic survey, and that has given us this alternative proposal. But we have not decided either way and I can assure my hon. friend that a decision will be taken very early.

OXFORD STUDENTS' REPORT ON INDIAN TOURISM

*219. SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some students from Oxford have given a report to the Government of India on tourism in India; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the report?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) No report on tourism has been received from Oxford.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: There seems to be a mistake and the hon. Minister should have overlooked it. Was there any report by foreign students adversely commenting on the question of tourist facilities in this country? If there is, where is it from, and can it be placed on the Table of the House?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Mistake on whose part is being referred to by the hon. Member? Mistake on whose part? Not on my part, I believe.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Then you should have rejected the question, or asked for further information. It is not good for the Government to exploit the weakness of the Member. If I had not referred to Oxford and asked whether they had received any report from foreign students, then they would have said 'Yes' and given the details. But . . .

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I believe the hon. Member has no weakness that I know of, and at any rate I have no intention to exploit it. However, I think what the hon. Member seems to refer to is a report which has been produced at our instance by a Californian institute of research, namely the Stanford Research Institute, who have examined a number of witnesses, people who have returned from this country to America after a visit, and the travel organisations and other bodies concerned. Now they have submitted a report which is at present under our examination and in course of time such conclusions, as are arrived at, will be placed before the House.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: May I know the major points which they have recommended for the development of tourism in this country, and is it one of the points that the hostel accommodation was insufficient and the transport arrangements were bad? If so what action Government is going to take against these points?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I think, if a detailed reply is required, I should require separate notice of a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The students of Oxford have not reported; only the Stanford Institute has reported and, I am afraid, you need not be in a hurry to know their recommendations as these are still under examination.

Your question related to Oxford and you have got the answer.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I want to bring a point to your notice and to the notice of the House. We sometimes get information either from newspapers or from some of our own people. There may be some mistake about the name, may be Oxford University or some other American University. It is not good for the Government just to use that mistake and to say 'No' to the question. They could have as well given this information, namely that they have not received any such report from Oxford before accepting the question. But there is a report from the American tourists, from the American students. Now, when the question has been accepted by the Government, it does not behove well of the Government to just exploit these mistakes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, Government accepts a question and gives a reply and here the reply is in the negative. Accepting a question does not imply agreeing with it. They accept a question because it appears to be a valid question and here, as I said, they have given the reply in the negative.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ- That also the Minister knows; he knows that there is a report from the American students, therefore he could have given us that report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not willing to discuss this point. The Minister has replied that there is no report from Oxford. He has given the additional information that there is a report from the Stanford Institute and that it is still being considered.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, I really do not want to travel beyond what the Minister has stated here. Now the Stanford Institute undertook a study of this matter and the Minister made a statement in Madras on that. I should like to ask him whether that Stanford Institute was asked to

undertake this study by the Government of India, or did they do it voluntarily?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you should put a separate question. This is with regard to Oxford and the reply is 'No'. It is only as a by-product of the reply that you have come to know about Stanford.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA. Having got notice of the question and having in their possession no report from Oxford, did it occur to the Government that since the matter related to the same subject they might still have carefully studied what the Stanford report had to say and given us their conclusions?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has already said that this is under consideration and that when the conclusions are reached, they would be communicated to you.

SURVEY OF APPROACHES TO DHAMRA HARBOUR (ORISSA)

♦220. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether the Ministry has received any pressing requests from the Government of Orissa for survey of the approaches to Dhamra Harbour in Balasore District of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): The programme of hydrographic surveys to be undertaken during each survey season is decided by the Hydrographic Survey Committee of the National Harbour Board. Requests for the survey of the approaches to Dhamra river have been received from the Government of Orissa in the past but it has not been possible to undertake the survey so far, as other high priority surveys had to be carried out first.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: When does the Minister expect that it would be possible to take up the survey work?