

Closure of Suknna-Mirika State Highway

†1112. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the plan for closure of the State Highway leading from Suknna to Mirika passing through the Army area; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Suknna Mirika Road originates from NH 110 (old NH 55) and goes to Mirika *via* Adalpur. Suknna Adalpur Road passes through the Suknna Military Station having Corps Head Quarter and high density of sensitive military installations. Keeping in view security implications of the Military Station, it was proposed in the Civil Military Liaison Conference on 31st July, 2010 to divert civil traffic to an existing alternate route. However, a decision in the matter rests with the civil administration.

Irregularities in Project Deepak of BRO

1113. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an inquiry, conducted by CVC into the Project Deepak of Border Road Organisation (BRO), revealed shocking instance of manipulation of tenders, cartelization, lack of quality and use of substandard material to maintain and construct the crucial roads in some sensitive border areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the remedial action taken by Government;

(c) whether responsibility has been fixed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the punishment given to the persons responsible for such a fiasco?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) During inspection of Project Deepak of Border Roads Organisation by the Chief Technical Examiner of Border Roads Development Board, certain irregularities have been brought to light. To ascertain the specific financial and technical irregularities and involvement of officers responsible, a Court of Inquiry has been ordered and the same is in progress.

Purchase of defence related items from US

1114. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of purchase of defence related items from the United States between 2004-2011;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.