

- (b) if so, whether Government has taken up this matter with Pakistan; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) This Ministry has not come across any case wherein the parcels sent by the relatives and members of the families of Indian fishermen presently in the custody of Pakistani authorities have been returned.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Infrastructure projects in Myanmar

3222. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several infrastructure projects are being implemented under the Ministry's funding in Myanmar, which would largely benefit North-Eastern States specially Manipur and Mizoram; and
- (b) if so, the details of such important infrastructure projects undertaken by Government in Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. Government of India is undertaking development of some infrastructure projects as part of our development cooperation partnership with Myanmar which would be of benefit to both Myanmar and North-Eastern states of India. These are construction of 69 bridges including approach roads in the Tamu-Kyigone-Kalewa road section (149.70) kms. and construction/upgradation of Kalewa-Yargi road section (120.74 kms.), which are parts of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway. Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport Project (KMMTTP), also being implemented by this Ministry, envisages connectivity between Indian ports on the eastern seaboard and Sittwe port in Myanmar and then through riverine transport and by road to Mizoram.

Delay in KMMTTP road project

3223. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that construction of Paletwa-Zorinpui road under Kaladan Multi- Model Transit Transport Project (KMMTTP) is unduly getting delayed and also resulting into cost overrun;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the issues raised by various agencies for the implementation of this important road project; and

(c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for completing KMMTTP road project with exact timelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) The award of work for construction of road between Paletwa and Zorinpui under the Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport Project (KMMTTP) in Myanmar got rescheduled due to delay in undertaking a pre-bid site inspection, which is mandatory for the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode works. However, no cost overrun compared to the project cost approved in October 2015 is envisaged on account of this.

(b) The proposed road between Paletwa and Zorinpui is a greenfield project and passes through a treacherous and inaccessible terrain involving water bodies, slippery slopes and rock formations. The pre-bid site inspection by prospective Indian bidders got delayed because of security concerns and unfavourable site conditions, including heavy monsoon.

(c) The pre-bid site inspection was later successfully completed in September 2016 with the cooperation of Government of Myanmar, and adequate time has been given for submission of bids to facilitate wider participation. The project management consultant has been appointed. The necessary steps, including close review by the Project Review Committee, are being taken in consultation with stakeholders for early commencement of the construction. The road component is scheduled to be completed by 2019.

Indian workers not getting due payment abroad

3224. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in various countries the Indian workers are not getting their due payments for months; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government with its counterparts to settle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) and (b) It has been reported by the Indian Missions that they do receive complaints from Indian migrant workers regarding non-payment/less payment/delayed payment/withholding of salaries. The Missions, on receipt of such complaints, take up the matter with the concerned sponsor/Employer as well as with the local authorities for redressal of these grievances. If the emigrant is recruited through a registered Recruiting Agent, Show-cause notice is served on registered Recruiting Agents against whom complaints are received and the Recruiting Agent is directed to settle/resolve the complaint.