

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** May I know the reasons why Government could not declare the Agartala-Assam road as a national highway?

**Shri Datar:** Government are considering the whole question, because under the Territorial Councils Act, certain roads have to be transferred to them for maintenance immediately. Government would consider this question also as to whether certain roads should be treated as State highways. There are certain difficulties. The West Bengal Act applies now, but the proposal is to apply the Bombay Highways Act. Then, the matter will be facilitated.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Does the Minister say that certain roads are under the direct administration of the Territorial Council? But is it not a fact that only the foot-tracks are under the Territorial Council?

**Shri Datar:** That question itself is under consideration. Out of a large-mileage of 682 miles, there is a proposal to transfer at least 451 miles to them.

**Shri Bangshi Thakur:** May I know whether all the roads, by-roads, lanes and by-lanes of Agartala town and other divisional towns of Tripura are treated as national or State highways?

**Shri Datar:** That question has not yet been considered.

#### Coloured Earth

\*1395. **Shri E. Narayanasamy:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that coloured earth suitable for distemping is found along the road sides of Kodaikanal, Kodaikanal Hills, Madurai District; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to utilize it?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The utilisation of Lithomargic clays, which can be used for manufacture of inferior grade colour washes in shades of buff and brick-red, is the concern of the State Government.

**Shri N. E. Munisamy:** May I know whether it is a fact that the entire Thatchambadi firka of Wandiwash taluk in North Arcot is full of this coloured earth suitable for distemping and various other things? If so, are any steps being taken by Government to utilise it.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I could not say.

**Mr Speaker:** Why not the hon. Minister say loudly that it is not possible for him to say without notice?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the State Government has asked for technical advice and help in this matter?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** No, the State Government has not asked for any advice or help in this matter.

#### बबीना के निकट बम विस्फोट

\*१३९७ श्री मोहन स्वचर . क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बबीना सैनिक केन्द्र के निकट नाहादा और भाई दो गांवों के पास बम-विस्फोट की दो घटनायें हुई थीं; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या उन घटनाओं के कारणों का पता लगाया गया है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री के सहा-सचिव (श्री कर्णेश्वरदास नायकबाड़ ) . (क) २४ अक्टूबर और १८ नवम्बर को क्रमशः दो विस्फोट घटनाएँ हुई, दोनों विस्फोट भाई गांव के समीप हुए ।

(ख) दोनों घटनाओं में विस्फोटों की खानवीन के लिये कोर्टस भाफ इन्सायरी मुकर्रर की गई थी । बवपि पूरा विस्तार