

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I have replied to his question. The bridge has been reopened for traffic. The State Government had demanded a compensation of Rs. 20.79 crore from the Central Government. They know it that we cannot pay it. I have already replied to rest of his points. Besides, I shall write a letter, if not already written to the State Government expressing our inability to pay compensation. We have requested the Finance Minister today in the House to allocate funds for this purpose. The hon. Member has also made his request to us through you. If we get funds, his State would be the first to get it.

[English]

LINKING OF KUAKHIA WITH AVADI

*273. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has sought central assistance from the Central Road Fund or under the Centrally Aided Programme of State Roads of Inter-State or economic importance for linking Kuakhia on National Highway No. 5 with Avadi;

(b) whether the Union Government have taken any decision in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to a road link from Kuakhia to Aradi (Dist. Balasore). No Such proposal either under Central Road Fund or E & I Scheme has been received from the State Govt.

(b) to (d) : Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to information available with me, many years ago the

Government of Orissa had sent a proposal to the Central Government in this regard. I have also raised this matter in this House many times. The national highway no. 5 originates from Goalpara and runs upto Arau via Jatur. This area falls under my constituency. Its population is 15 lakhs. Though the area is small in size, it is densely populated. The traffic is heavy and the people will have to use a longer route. While going to Goalpara from Aradi one has to cross Baitarani river. There is also a rivulet, called Gudha on the way and a distributary of Brahmani river has also to be crossed. There should be a bridge over it. In fact, the construction work of the bridge has been started but the Orissa Government does not have adequate funds to complete the work immediately. I had also made efforts to press for the same and as per my information, my hon. friend (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please put a question.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : It is just the background. I was going to say that Orissa Government had sent a proposal, but I don't know where it is pending. The hon. Minister ought to know it. If he does not know, will he please give clearance to the proposal?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : It is very simple that no such proposal has come. The Chief Minister of Orissa met me only yesterday. I know that his question is stated for today and presuming that the proposal had come from the State Government. I made enquiries from the Secretary to the Chief Minister. He said that they had not sent any such proposal. I will request the hon. Member to ask his State Government that if there is so much difficulty they should send a proposal to us. We will consider it and see whether we can give it under the rules or not.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : I am raising it time and again in the House, because I have been a member of this House for the last several years. It is a very important road of my area. Millions of people use this road to reach different locations and they experience a lot of

hardship. Now-a-days when there is flood the people will have to take a round about route. When I raise this matter in the House why does not the Government pay attention to it.

MR. SPEAKER : When the matter is being raised time and again, why do not you pay attention to it.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Despite being reminded several times, the State Government does not send the requisite proposal. Than, what can be done in this case.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Members, no doubt, raise the matter time and again, but the Ministers also change very frequently.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : As the Minister has stated that the proposal has not come from the State Government and if the proposal comes, I presume, that his attitude is to immediately check up that proposal and accept that. The second thing is that many proposals of Orissa State are pending with the Government of India. Even in 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, the proposals have not been accepted by the Government of India and the share of the State Government from the Central Road Fund has not been given to the State Government. Whatever proposal comes to the Government of India for a share from the Central Road Fund, may I know from the Minister, whether he is going to sanction that money to the State, since the State Government has not received the money for the last three consecutive years?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Let the proposal come and then I will tell you.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : But the proposal is pending before you.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : As far as the Central Road Fund is concerned, we have released certain amount of money to different States. If the fund has not been released, I will look into it. We have

some balance amount left with us, and I will surely look into that.

BORDER INTRUSION BY PAKISTAN ARMY IN SIACHEN SECTOR

*275. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times border intrusions have been committed by the Pakistani army in Siachen sector during the current year;

(b) whether these border intrusions are on the increase in comparison to the past years;

(c) If so, the specific reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such intrusions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) :

(a) Barring some exchange of fire there have been no attempts by the Pakistan Army to alter the existing status quo of the ground positions in Siachen area during the current year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Our forces are fully trained and equipped to maintain the territorial integrity of the Country.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI : May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the border intrusion or the exchange of fire between our forces and the Pakistani forces are more in number in comparison to the other sectors? During the recent years, since these forces are placed in very important strategical positions from both the points of view, have specific or special steps been taken to see that this portion is well-protected and more number of border violations do not take place in the interest of the security of our country?