

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) As reported by the State Public Works Department, this section was damaged by floods during the last years. However, no report of any damages has been received so far in the current year.

(b) and (c) During the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91), improvement works costing Rs. 339 lakhs and flood damage repair works costing Rs. 103 lakhs were sanctioned for the portion of this National Highway in Khagaria Division (Km. 218 to Km. 331) apart from normal maintenance activities. Most of the flood damage repair works have been completed.

Uttar Pradesh
Opening of a branch of Nationalised Bank in Fatehganjpurvi in Bareilly District (U.P.)

2379. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any requests for opening a branch of a nationalised bank in Fatehganjpurvi district, Bareilly, U.P. ;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to open a branch in that area;

(c) if so, when the said branch is likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) It is reported by the Reserve Bank of India that no such request appears to have been received by them.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Seizure of smuggled goods on Coastal Areas of Gujarat

2380. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of smugglers caught in the coastal areas of Gujarat during the last six months and the smuggled goods recovered from them; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to check smuggling in the aforesaid areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) The Customs authorities have seized contraband worth Rs. 6.22 crores approximately and arrested 11 persons in the Coastal areas of the State of Gujarat during the period from January to June, 1991.

(b) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country especially in the vulnerable areas of the coastline has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. The Customs officers have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, firearms, night vision binoculars, etc. for combating smuggling activities more effectively. A Telecommunication network has also been provided to the Customs Preventive Collectorate, Gujarat.

[English] SCs/STs, Delhi
State Transport authority permits to transporters belonging to SCs/STs

2381. SHRI KALKA DASS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of transporters having STA permits issued by the Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;

(c) whether some more STA permits are proposed to be issued to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Delhi Administration have informed that 306 Stage Carriage Permits on city routes have been issued by the State Transport Authority, Delhi.

(b) Out of the above 306 Permits, 41 have been allotted to SC/STs.

(c) and (d) The Delhi Administration have informed that 15 Permits are to be granted to SC/STs based on the decision taken by the Executive Council in May, 1989. In response to an advertisement published in the newspapers inviting applications for these permits, a total of 61 applications were received. After scrutiny, 14 applications were found eligible and their cases have been approved by the State Transport Authority, Delhi.

89 *Uttar Pradesh*
Construction of Bridge on Ganga River at Baluaghat in Varanasi District

2382. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction of the proposed bridge on the Ganga river at Baluaghat in Varanasi District has been started;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the work is proposed to be started and the construction of the bridge is likely to be completed; and

(d) the amount allocated by the Union Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) The bridge on the Ganga river at Baluaghat in Varanasi District when constructed, would fall on a State Road and as such the Government of Uttar Pradesh are primarily concerned in the matter.

89 *Gems and Jewellery*
Export of Gold Ornaments
2383. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total value and quantity of gold ornaments exported during the last two years; and

(b) the special incentives given for the exports of gold ornaments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The exports of gold jewellery in value as reported by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) is given as under :—

(Value Rs. in Crores)	
Year	Value
1989-90	282.90
1990-91	363.86

However, for gold ornaments, statistics are maintained only of value and not in quantity.

(b) Gold Jewellery is a thrust sector for exports. Government have taken a series of measures to enhance the exports of gold jewellery. Special complexes for export production of gold jewellery have been established in Bombay and Delhi, with an exclusive arrangement for supply of gold by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC). Permission has also been granted for 100% Export Oriented Units operating outside such complexes provided they are able to achieve the export of Rs. 50 crores in the 2nd year of production. The repeal of the Gold Control Act has given an impetus to gold jewellery exports.

90
Non-implementation of Labour Acts by Tea Estates

2384. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised tea estates under the Tea Trading Corporation of India are not implementing Plantation Labour Act, Gratuity Act, Provident Fund Act and other similar Acts beneficial to workmen of tea gardens;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?