

Labourer in Border Roads Development Board

3353. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) The number of persons working as labourer in Border Roads Development Board;

(b) whether the Government are aware that persons working for last thirty years have not been made permanent;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to make them permanent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) The total number of Casual Paid Labourers both skilled and unskilled working in Border Roads Organisation as on 30th June, 1995 were 80164.

(b) to (d). The Casual Paid Labourers are employed on daily or monthly rates of pay not exceeding six months at a time. Since their employment is casual in nature, their services are disengaged when no longer required. The Casual Paid Labourers who fulfil the requirement of age, educational qualifications and medical standard are given preference for recruitment against 2/3rd vacancies in Group 'E' posts in Border Roads Organisation.

National Highway Revolving Fund

3354. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to create a National Highway Revolving Fund by levying surcharges on petrol and diesel;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor the broad features thereof;

(c) whether the Government have ascertained the views of State Governments on the creation, sources and financing of the proposed fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated amount which the authorities anticipate to raise every year from this exercise;

(f) the likely rate of surcharge to be levied on each litre of petrol used and diesel consumed; and

(g) the manner in which this fund is planned to be utilised and the percentage likely to be made available to the States for maintenance of roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) to (g). It is proposed to create a National Highway Revolving Fund. However, the proposal is at conceptual stage and it is too early to indicate the details thereof.

Employment Assurance Scheme

3355. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged for sanction of more funds under Employment Assurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VILAS MUTTIEMWAR) : (a) and (b). The first instalment of Central Assistance amounting to Rs.47.520 crores under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) was released on 9.5.1995. Recently, the State of Andhra Pradesh requested for more funds under EAS. Funds under EAS are released on the basis of utilisation of available funds and also the number of persons who have registered themselves for work under the scheme. Accordingly, the second instalment of Central Assistance of Rs.47.50 crores has been released on receipt of utilisation of available funds and other details from the State. Thus, Rs.95.00 crores stands released to the State under EAS during the current financial year.

Loss in Up- SEB

3356. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) cumulative losses incurred by State Electricity Board of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for these losses; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the functioning of those SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) The accounts of the SEBs for the year 1994-95 have not been finalised so far. Profit/loss of UPSEB and MPEB, with subsidy and without subsidy during