

to the company on 12-12-77 for taking up the manufacture of Sorbitol for an annual capacity of 2,000 tonnes, subject inter-alia, to the conditions that the company shall comply with the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act before they implement this project and that their entire production of this item will either be exported or utilized for their captive consumption.

**Payment of Rent for Office building of Director General of Ordnance Factories**

3823. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are paying rent of Rs. 1.20 lakhs per month for the office building of Director General of Ordnance Factories, Calcutta;

(b) whether Government has postponed the construction of its own multi-storeyed building in the land already ear-marked for the purpose at 10-A, Auckland Road, Calcutta;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons of stopping the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) A sum of Rs. 1,14,358 is being paid at present for a hired building at 44, Park Street which accommodates a part of the DGOF HQrs. at Calcutta.

(b) to (d). No, Sir. The proposal to undertake new construction is in under consideration. There is accordingly, no question of stopping any construction.

**Traffic Study of River Ganga between Allahabad and Calcutta**

3824. SHRI P. V. PERIASAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic study of river Ganga between Allahabad and Calcutta was entrusted to National Council of Applied Economic Research;

(b) whether N.C.A.E.R. has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the salient findings of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) The Report was received on 17-10-1977. The main finding of the report is that I.W.T. service between Calcutta-Allahabad would be uneconomic and would involve a loss of Rs. 67 lakhs in 1977-78, which would reduce to Rs. 39 lakhs in 1990-91. The report has, however, not taken into account the traffic emanating due to construction of Haldia port and industrial complex.

**Allocations for National Highways**

3825. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) total funds allocated for widening of National Highways throughout the country; and its break up for different States during the 5th Five Year Plan;

(b) whether funds were not allocated according to the demands of the States; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to provide funds according to the demands of the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) A statement giving the requisite information for 1974-75 to 1976-77 is attached. Budget