

out a version in Roman script. The Director of the International Akademi of Culture is himself preparing to bring out an edition of the manuscript in the Devanagri script.

Impact of cut in expenditure on National Highways in Kerala

2210. SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether recent cut in expenditure has adversely affected the only National Highway in Kerala;

(b) whether the Kerala Government has represented against the cut; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The Budget Estimates for 1974-75 as approved by Parliament, included a provision of Rs. 45.50 crores for National Highway (Original) Works for the country as a whole. Out of this a sum of Rs. 240 lakhs has been earmarked for National Highway works in Kerala. There has been so far no cut in the amount of either Rs. 45.50 crores or Rs. 240 crores. While the Govt. of Kerala have been representing about the inadequacy of this allocation of Rs. 240 lakhs and pressing for an additional allocation of Rs. 146 lakhs, they have not pointed out any adverse repercussions on National Highways in the State which will follow if additional allocations are not made available to them. The State Govt's request has been considered carefully but it has not been possible to provide any additional funds in view of the current financial stringency.

Shortening and strengthening the West Coast Road

2211. SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has represented to Central Government for shortening and strengthening the West Coast Road by bridging Chandragiri river in Cannanore District; and

(b) the Government's reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Certain technical and cost details have been asked for from the State Government for proper appreciation and examination of their proposal and the matter would be considered on receipt thereof.

Deviation in National Highway No. 47 from Alwaye to Calicut

2212. SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested for a deviation in National Highway No. 47 from Alwaye to Calicut with a view to strengthen and shorten the road; and

(b) whether his Ministry has accepted the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Presumably the Hon'ble member is referring to the West Coast Road, N. H. No. 17 and not the Coimbatore—Trichur — Ernakulam—Trivandrum—Cape Comorin Road, N. H. No. 47

The route of the West Coast Road, N. H. No 17 in Kerala has been altered recently at the request of the State Government. The altered route is from Mangalore (in Karnataka) to Edapally via Cannanore, Calicut (Kozikoda), Feroke, Kuttipuram Pudu Ponnani, Chowghat and Cranganur.

Assistance for Slum Clearance in Kerala

2213. SHRI C. H. MOHAMMAD KOYA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has asked for any assistance for slum clearance;

(b) if so, the nature thereof; and

(c) reaction to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) to (c). The Slum Clearance Scheme was transferred to the State Sector with effect from 1st April, 1969. Thereafter Central assistance for State Plan Schemes is provided in the form of block loans and block grants. State Governments are free to utilise the funds according to their priorities and requirements.

अखिल भारतीय गन्ना आयोग का प्रतिवेदन

2214 श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अखिल भारतीय गन्ना आयोग ने अपना प्रतिवेदन सरकार को प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार ने उसकी जांच की है ;

(ग) इसका मुख्य सिफारिशें क्या हैं ;
श्री

(घ) उन पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णा-साहेब पी० सिंदे) : (क) भारत सरकार को अखिल भारतीय गन्ना आयोग की स्थापना के बारे में कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

(ख) से (घ) : प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Showing on U.S. T.V. of Nataraja Idol stolen from Sivapuram temple

2215. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item appearing in local English daily dated the 1st June, 1974 relating to a show in U.S. T.V. of a Nataraja Idol smuggled out of India from the Sivapuram Temple in South India;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken against these "Cultural thieves"; and

(c) how many of them have so far been arrested and punished?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Embassy in U.S.A. has taken up this matter with the present owner in U.S.A. as well as with U.S. Government authorities.

(c) The investigations are still in progress.

New wiring system for call bells in North and South Avenue M.Ps. Flats

2216 SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in North and South Avenue M.Ps. flats in New Delhi, a new wiring system for call bells has been fitted;