

Alleged misappropriation of Money by Incharge of Bangladeshi Evacuee Camps in Assam

546 SHRI NOORUL HUDA:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether lakhs of rupees had been either misappropriated or misutilised by those Incharge of Bangladeshi Evacuee Camps in Assam, according to the report of Comptroller and Auditor-General of India for 1971-72;

(b) whether the said Incharge had not submitted accounts as yet; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to stop this practice and to prosecute the person responsible therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) to (c) The required information is being collected from the Government of Assam and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha on its receipt.

Assistance for Bridge over Damodar at Sadar Ghat near Burdwan

547 SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have been approached by the West Bengal Government for assistance for the construction of a Bridge over the river Damodar at Sadar Chat near Burdwan.

(b) if so, the nature of assistance required, and

(c) the amount granted or proposed to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government have included this project (estimated cost

Rs. 172 lakhs) in the proposals submitted by them in the 5th Plan for 100 per cent Central loan assistance under the Central Aid Programme of State Roads/Bridges of inter-State or Economic Importance.

(c) This does not arise at present as the aforesaid programme is yet to be finalised. Actually, while the total proposals received from all the States (including West Bengal) amount to Rs. 365 crores, the Draft Fifth Plan includes a provision of Rs 30 crores only. Moreover, during 1974-75 a provision of Rs. 2 crores only is available which is not sufficient even for a fraction of the 'on going' works, which alone amount to about Rs. 26 crores. The provision in 1974-75 does not, therefore, permit of taking up any new works.

Setting up of a Joint Shipping Line by India and Iran

548 SHRI BIREN ENGTI:
SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL;
SHRI B. K. DAS CHOWDHURY;
SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether India and Iran have agreed to set up a joint shipping line;

(b) the terms of the agreement; and

(c) whether the two countries have also agreed to use the line for combating smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI) (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. It has been decided to enter into an agreement with Iran to form a Joint Shipping Line. The details of the Agreement have not yet been finalised.

(c) No, Sir.