

cancelled during the current year for manufacturing sub-standard and unhealthy drugs;

(b) whether similar action has been taken in other States also; and

(c) if so, the names of those States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when received.

Realignment of National Highway between Kasargod and Kanhangad

5270. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received regarding realignment of national highway between Kasargod and Kanhangad;

(b) whether this re-alignment would save the distance between the two places and straighten the national highway; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government to the proposal?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The merits of the re-alignment suggested including the aspect of cost involvement are still under examination as the present national highway alignment is already a single lane-blacks-topped road.

Coastal Steel Plants

5271. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to establish coastal steel plants?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): The proposed steel plant near Visakhapatnam will be in the coastal area.

Commissioning of Indian Navy Submarine Vagir

5272. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy Submarine Vagir has become the first under water warship to help in the drive against smuggling by hauling up suspicious looking motor fishing vessel;

(b) whether the fishing vessel in question was found carrying textile and electronic calculators valued at Rs 8 lakhs; and

(c) if so, whether the submarine personnel were rewarded for this excellent catch if so, the nature of the rewards?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) Submarines are not employed for apprehension of smugglers' boats but during the course of exercise the Submarine Vagir happened to help in the apprehension of several smuggling craft.

(b) One of the vessels apprehended was carrying textiles and electronic calculators valued at about Rs 14 lakhs.

(c) The question of rewarding the submarine personnel is under consideration of the Government.