

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inadequate safety measures undertaken in the ports for the workers;

(b) whether there is a need to adopt safety standards for the port workers particularly who are handling hazardous cargo;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this direction; and

(d) the specific safety measures adopted in Paradeep Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Adequate Safety measures are undertaken for safety of workers in the Major Ports as per the provisions of Dock Workers. (Safety, Health & Welfare) Act, 1986 and the regulations framed thereunder. Due care and safety precautions are taken while handling hazardous cargo and whenever any shortcoming is noticed, corrective steps are taken.

(d) The specific safety measures adopted in Paradip Port inter-alia include:

(i) Periodical maintenance of Roads, proper illumination of work place, dust suppression by sprinkling water, regular cleaning of spillage, checking of Road worthiness of Transport equipments, deployment of fire fighting equipments, supply of personal protective equipments etc.

(ii) Organising safety training programme for Port and Dock Workers.

(iii) Generating safety awareness and undertaking safety motivational programmes.

(iv) All fatal and major accidents are investigated and remedial measures are taken to prevent recurrence.

(v) Safety studies and surveys are undertaken.

At present, a Safety Audit is also being conducted in Paradip Port by the specialists from Directorate General of Factory Advice Service and Labour Institute, Mumbai to assess the present Safety, Health and Welfare situation with a view to improve their standards further.

Four Laning Project for Chennai-Trichy N.H.

2926. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any project for four laning the Chennai-Trichy National Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the physical works completed so far;

(c) whether there has been inordinate delay in taking up the works under the said project in the Maduranthagam-Villupuram-Trichy section;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have any plans to commence four laning project works from Trichy also simultaneously to ensure the expeditious completion of the project; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (f) The work of four laning of National Highway-45, from Chennai Bypass to Tindivanam, Km.-68 to Km.-122, is to be taken up under Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT). The project preparation work for four laning of National Highway-45, from Tindivanam to Trichy Bypass and, Km. 122 to Km. 325, is to be taken up with assistance from the World Bank. Physical works, in the stretch, would be taken up in a phased manner in convenient number of packages after completion of the feasibility studies and the detailed project preparation.

[Translation]

Progress of G.T. Road Between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai

2927. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of G.T. Road between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai alongwith the construction over Ganga river in Varanasi (U.P.);

(b) the date on which this project was started and the stipulated targeted date for its completion;

(c) the total initial estimated cost of this project and the amount spent thereon so far;

(d) the total amount likely to be spent on its completion; and

(e) the targeted date finally fixed for the completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Out of a total length of 30.14 km. of Varanasi-Ramnagar-Mughalsarai by pass between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai, the work of major bridge over river Ganga (1470 metres long) is complete. The progress in the remaining 28.67 km. length is about 80%.

(b) Date of start 1.11.87

Stipulated target date of completion 30.12.94

(c) Original estimated cost was Rs. 49.92 crores, which is under revision. A sum of Rs. 123.39 crores has been spent upto March, 1998.

(d) Rs. 136.39 crores approximately.

(e) February, 1999.

Non-Publication of Manuscripts

2928. SHRI KARIYA MUNDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: