

(b) Experience in other countries indicate that not more than 25% of investment can be raised from private investment.

(c) The Central Government has taken measures like a cess of Rs. 1 per litre of petrol and levying toll on 4 lane sections to raise the resources for the development of the road sector.

Establishment of National Express Highway Authority

1362. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :
SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN :
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce a bill to establish the National Express Authority of India to develop the express concept in the country;

(b) if so, the Government have identified the existing roads in various parts of the country which could be developed as express Highways; and

(c) if so, the details of the places with their length identified under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) The proposals are at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given.

Nomination of Directors on Shaw Wallace Company Board

1363. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Calcutta High Court directed the Company Law Board to nominate Government Directors on the Shaw Wallace Company Board;

(b) if so, the names of the Directors and functions allotted to the Board;

(c) whether the Employees Federation has drawn the attention of the Government to serious cases of corruption in the company; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The petition filed by All India Shaw Wallace Employees Federation and others containing allegations of mismanagement against the management of Shaw Wallace & Company Ltd. and the application filed by the Department of Company Affairs under section 408 were decided by the Company Law Board on 27-7-98 directing that the total number of directors on the Board of Shaw Wallace & Company Ltd should be 9. Out of that two directors have been appointed by the Central Government and two directors are Company Law Board nominees. Thus, in all, 4 independent directors have been appointed on the Board of Shaw Wallace & Company Ltd. as per orders of the Company Law Board.

Classification of University Funds

1364. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Heads all over the country are sore with the Union Government classifying the funds allotted for higher education as 'non-merit' subsidy;

(b) if so, whether this will result in not allowing any increase in grants to higher education sector;

(c) whether representations have been received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (f) During 1996-97, Ministry of Finance had prepared a 'Discussion paper on Subsidies'. In this paper, the Higher Education was classified in the 'Non-Merit subsidy' category. The paper was circulated amongst the Members of Parliament for discussion only. No decision was taken by the Government on the issues discussed in the paper.