

Bihar and as I have explained, due to constraint of resources, it could not be taken up during the Seventh Plan and the Eighth Plan is being finalised and again we shall have discussions with the Bihar State Government and as per the priorities and suggestions from hon. Members, we shall take it up.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the G.T. Road constructed by Sher Shah Suri Starts from Peshawar and goes upto Sonarganj of Calcutta. The historic city of Sasaram, that lies en route was sparsely populated earlier but today it has a population of about two lakhs. One hundred vehicles pass through G.T. Road every minute and it takes a toll of at least one person daily in accidents. I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to widen the G.T. Road running through the heart of Sasaram city and construct the divider and the footpaths along this road? The Government of Bihar has also submitted a proposal in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: We shall examine all the suggestions of the Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANJAY LAL: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether highway No. 28 connecting Gandhi bridge of Patna with Muzaffarpur will be declared a National Highway in view of the heavy vehicular traffic on it?

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: I have already explained that the high density traffic areas will be subjected to a critical review and will be finalised in 8th Plan. We shall certainly look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI YUVRAJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we

look at Sl. No. (v) of the reply given by the Government, we find that the Korha (N.H.31) and Katihar-Pranpur-Maldah N.H. (34) have been taken up in the Seventh Five Year Plan whereas these projects were scheduled to be completed during 1985-90.

I would like to know the progress made with regard to construction of bridges etc. on the roads approved for conversion into National Highways and the amount of funds provided by the Central Government for this purpose?

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Sir, these were the suggestions of the Bihar Government for inclusion as national highways. As I have already explained, due to constraint of resources, they could not be taken up. Again it will be reviewed at the time of the Eighth Plan. We shall take them into account. (*Interruptions*)

#### **Supply of Speed Boats to Orissa**

\*680. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUHDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has requested the Union Government to arrange for supply of four speed boats for the implementation of Orissa Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1982;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c). In response to a communication from Ministry of Agriculture calling for project proposal for exploring the possibility of obtaining patrol boats for enforcing Marine Fishing Regulation Act in maritime States under the Japanese Grant in Aid in 1989-90,

Government of Orissa requested for supply of four speed boats. Since this request was not in the form of a project proposal with requisite details on specifications of boats, budget provision etc., Government of Orissa was requested to submit a detailed project proposal. The same has not yet been received from Government of Orissa.

**SHRILOKANATH CHOUDHARY:** Sir, I think the Government of Orissa has suggested that some Japanese steamships—four in numbers—be supplied to them for enforcing Marine Fishing Regulation Act. But since the Government of Orissa has passed an Act to prevent the coming up of outsiders and disturbing the traditional fishermen, it has become an acute problem in the State of Orissa. Just to implement that, the Orissa Government has brought forward this Act where up to a radius of 4-5 KMs. outsiders cannot enter. Every year there are riots. But since this has become a serious problem, will the Government of India consider from their side—even shift the Government of Orissa has not conveyed the reasons in the proper form—to supply them speed boats quickly to see that these things are not repeated again?

[*Translation*]

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government had invited proposals from all the maritime States in this regard. In this connection negotiations were held with the Government of Japan and they had agreed in a meeting held in the Ministry of Agriculture to co-operate in various fields. Accordingly, detailed information and proposals were invited from various states of the country with regard to their requirements for meeting the maritime patrolling operation and for enforcing the Marine Fishing Regulation Act. The Government of India vide its letter dated 14th June, 1989 had asked for the information regarding the type and number of patrol boats needed, the minimum required length thereof and the name of the agency for the supply of the same. The letter *inter-alia* sought to know whether these states had a concrete infrastructure and

budgetary provision in this regard and how do they propose to meet this budget. In reply to this letter, the Government of Orissa had put forward a demand for four speed boats only on 26th September, 1989. Subsequently, the Government of India vide its letter dated 26th October asked for a comprehensive plan in this regard. The reply to this letter is still awaited. The last letter was sent to them on 11th April, 1990. In the meantime, the Director (Fisheries) of the Government of Orissa vide his letter dated 9th April, 1990, submitted a proposal to the State Government with regard to the enforcement of this Act asking for the boats that can performance of this Act asking for the boats that can perform the twin functions of fishing as well as patrolling. A copy of that proposal has been received by the Central Government, but the problem is that the Government of India is not in receipt of a detailed proposal it had asked for. The situation till date is that the Government of Japan will be contacted for obtaining boats only after the necessary information is received from all the states.

This information has not been received from all the state Governments. The Central Government is considering to give certain direction to the State Governments with regard to the enforcement of regulations of the Marine Fishing Act in the Eighth Five Year Plan, in case no proposal to this effect is received from Orissa. Detailed proposals are being invited from the State Governments and two of them have already submitted such proposals. A meeting was held in this regard on 20th April in which all points were considered. We want to consider the case of Orissa on priority basis so as to speed up the patrolling and enforce the regulations there.

[*English*]

**SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY:** I want to know whether some State like this have already got these speed boats, if so, which are the States which have got it and which are the States which have submitted their proposals as required by the Government of India.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** As regards the first part of the question, I would like to state that no state has received the speed boats as yet. Kerala has sent its proposal, besides three other States which have sent their proposals according to the plan of the Central Government. Orissa has been considered to be one of them. Two more states have sent their proposals according to the Eighth Five Year Plan.

**MR. SPEAKER:** This is being delayed due to the formalities of correspondence. You can take up this matter at the Ministerial level.

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** Positive action will be taken in this direction.

[*English*]

**SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is another angle to this speed boat matter. As you know, I come from Balasore District. There is a beautiful place in the District called Dhamra which is internationally known as the world's largest breeding ground for tortoise. They lay millions of eggs. And to catch the poachers those who come from all over the world, to catch the egg and also the tortoise, the coastal guards were asked to give some speed boats. And the coastal guards gave some speed boats. They caught some of these poachers from Thailand, from Japan and from other countries and boats were handed over to the Paradeep Port. But that did not solve the problem because these speed boats were found wanting to go in the shallow water. You know, Sir, how shallow is the water. Then the Fishing Director requisitioned two boats. They are also in operation. I would like the Minister to see to the requirements of Dhamra, which is an international centre and where poaching goes on and to see what steps are being taken to preserve it. Would he consider giving small boats which can move in shallow water? That demand, I am sure, has not come from the Government of Orissa. Government of Orissa

is moving in the tortoise's speed—slow, silent and sleepy. Therefore, this young Minister should take some energetic steps to catch these poachers where tortoise lays eggs.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** I agree with his first question and the Government wants to examine it. Orissa will definitely receive Government's priority in regard to the enforcement of the Act throughout the country during the eighth Five Year Plan. The Government will initiate instant action under your directions as soon as the proposal is received from the Government of Orissa.

#### **S.T.D. Facility in Bharouch District in Gujarat**

\*681. **SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in Bharouch district of Gujarat where S.T.D. facilities are being extended during the current year; and

(b) the time by which S.T.D. facilities are likely to be provided?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):** (a) Ankleshwar, Panoli and Palej.

(b) Progressively during 1990-91 subject to the availability of equipment.

**SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that S.T.D. facilities are being extended to Ankleshwar, Panoli and Palej, but I would like to tell him that it is all right to provide S.T.D. facilities to Ankleshwar, a Tehsil village. But since Panoli and Palej are small villages, would it have not been better to extend these facilities to two other big towns instead?

**SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated that this