

exchange programme to bring South East Asian Countries closer to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). India signed cultural agreements with Thailand (April 77), Malaysia (March 78) Philippines (September 69) and Indonesia (1955) among the countries of South East Asia. Government is in the process of finalizing Cultural Exchange Programmes (with a duration of 2-3 Years) with Malaysia and the Philippines.

Cultural relations with South-East Asian countries are promoted through a wide range of activities e.g. performing art groups, exhibitions, book presentations, scholarships and exchanges of distinguished visitors and scholars conducted by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations.

An Indian Cultural Centre was established in Jakarta in February 1988 for teaching Indian music, classical dances and or-

ganising plays, theatres, seminars, lectures, etc. on India. There is also a proposal for setting up a Centre for south and south-East Asian Studies by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

Construction of Second Hooghly Bridge

1221. **SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA:
DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL:**

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of Second Hooghly bridge connecting Calcutta and Howrah; and

(b) the amount spent on the construction of this bridge till 30 June, 1990 by Union and State Governments, separately?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Section-wise physical progress till the end of July, 1990 is as under:-

| | | |
|-------|---|--------|
| (i) | Section I (Calcutta side approach and Interchanges) | 99.69% |
| (ii) | Section II (Howrah side approach and Interchanges) | 91.89% |
| (iii) | Section III (Main Bridge) | 84.305 |

(b) The amount spent out of the loan assistance given by the Government of India is Rs. 188.87 crores and the amount spent by Government of West Bengal is Rs. 10.07 crores.

Ex-Gratia Payment to Victims of Terrorism in J&K

1222. **SHRI PYARE LAL HANDOO:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an ex-gratia payment of rupee one lakh was promised to be paid to the heirs of every victim of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, how many families of terrorist violence causing death have so far been paid and how many cases are still pending as on 1 August, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI