

Detailed engineering and project preparation has also been taken up for upgradation of Kishangarh—Ajmer Section.

Declaration of New National Highways in Tamil Nadu

563. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Tamil Nadu have sent proposals for declaring some roads as the new National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the length in Kms. of these roads and the cost involved in declaring these roads; and

(c) by which date these proposals would be cleared by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a)

Yes, Sir.

(b) In January 2000, 8 proposals with an aggregate length of 941.7 kms. have been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu. About 1413 crores would be required for upgrading these roads to National Highways standards.

(c) No definite time frame can be given since the proposals would be considered keeping in view the *inter-se* priority with other proposals received from other State Government and subject to availability of funds.

Vacancies and Promotion of Employees in IRCC

564. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Road Construction Corporation has promoted employees without vacancies and on the other hand has not promoted eligible employees against vacancies during 1991-93;

(b) if so, the categories of employees who were given benefit of promotion and those discriminated against and under which rules these have been done separately;

(c) the reasons for not following the same rules and standards in all the cases; and

(d) the justification and rules under which promotions made during 1991-93 were regularised in 139th Board Meeting on 18th December, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) In all 112 promotions were made in IRCC between 1991-93, as per approved sanctioned strength and vacancy position and the same were approved by the Board of Directors which is the competent authority. General as well as reserved category of employees were given benefit of promotion as per rules.

As per R and P Rules mere completion of eligibility does not confer any right for promotion.

(c) While holding DPC for promotion, IRCC followed the requirements as stipulated in its R and P Rules, Presidential Directives and Govt, rules uniformly.

(d) This was done under the provisions of R and P Rules of the Corporation, Presidential Directives and Govt, rules etc.

Maintenance of National Highways in Arunachal Pradesh

565. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Highways in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) the details of amount spent on the maintenance, repairing and development of such National Highways in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) There are two National Highways in the State of Arunachal Pradesh.