

likely to take some time as there is a possibility of re-alignment of the NH in certain stretches due to proposed construction of dams over rivers Irang and Tupaimukh. An amount of Rs. 304.70 lakh has been allocated during 2000-01 and an outlay of Rs. 261.00 lakh has been proposed during 2001-02 for the purpose.

Road Accidents in Delhi

1448. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of road accidents in Delhi during the last three years;

in how many of the above accidents Blue Line and DTC buses were involved;

whether speed governors are not fitted in Blue Line Buses;

if so, the reasons therefor and if not, how many Blue Line Buses are yet to be fitted with speed governors;

whether any surprise checks are carried out; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) As per information available the number of road accidents in Delhi during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 were 10949, 10217 and 9909 respectively. The number of road accidents involving DTC buses, Blue Line buses, Red Line buses and buses under DTC operation out of these accidents during 1997, 1998 and 1999 were 1059, 749 and 596 respectively.

(c) and (d) As informed by Government of NCT of Delhi, speed governors fitted in all the buses are checked at the time of fitness granted every year, it is ensured that speed control devices are fitted in every blue line bus at the time of annual fitness for road worthiness.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Surprise checks are carried out by concerned officers from time to time and during the year 1999

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and 2000 the number of challans issued to defaulting buses were 91 and 143 respectively.

Damage on National Highway-4

1449. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

whether earthquake in the Kutch region of North Gujarat has torn apart several stretches of the National Highway-4 with cracks as big as 8 to 20 feet; and

if so, the action taken to restore traffic with quick repair thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) There is no National Highway No. 4 in Kutch region of North Gujarat. However, National Highway-8A, 8A Extn. and 15 with total length of about 270 km pass through Kutch region. Some stretches of these National Highways were damaged due to recent Earthquake.

(b) Immediate repairs were carried out to restore the traffic.

Extension, Repair and Maintenance of NH in Bihar

† 1450. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration regarding extension, repair and maintenance of National Highways in Bihar;

if so, details thereof; and

the steps taken by Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) Maintenance and repairs of National Highways is a continuous process. Extension of National Highways is

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.