

(c) the total investment to be made by the Union Government in the upgradation of State Highways; and

(d) the time frame in which development of State Highways infrastructure is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) in its meeting held on 17.3.2010, *inter-alia*, approved "In-Principle" the proposal for declaration of about 10,000 km of State Roads as new National Highways (NHs) subject to review of the criteria for identification of road stretches in consultation with the Planning Commission. However, the details of the State roads for declaration as NHs have not been identified so far. It is premature to indicate the estimated fund requirements for upgradation of these State roads as NHs including the time frame for completion of their development.

Networking State Regional Transport offices

3672. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project by National Informatics Centre (NIC) for computerization and establishing network of State Regional Transport Offices is under process; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame for the completion of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) and (b) The Government has already sanctioned a project for computerization of RTOs/STAs as well as creation of State and National Register of Driving Licence and Registration Certificates etc. at a total cost of Rs 148 crores. This project is being executed by NIC. As per the information available with this Ministry, 100% computerization has been achieved in 21 States/UTs and about 88% of the RTOs, *i.e.* about 872 RTOs has been computerized. Further 100% connectivity has been achieved in 23 States/UTs. Network connectivity has been established in 822 RTOs (about 83%). It is expected that the project would be completed soon. However, keeping in view the nature and volume of the work involved, no definite time frame could be envisaged at this stage.

Financial Assistance for DMIC from foreign countries

3673. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :