

road under Inter-State Connectivity Scheme. Detailed Project Report is awaited from Government of Gujarat and Union Territories.

(d) Criteria for declaration of new National Highway is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Criteria for Declaration of National Highways

1. Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country.
2. Roads connecting adjacent countries.
3. Roads connecting the National Capital with State Capital and roads connecting mutually the State capitals.
4. Roads connecting major ports, large industrial centres or tourist centres.
5. Roads meeting very important strategic requirements.
6. Arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby.
7. Roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions.
8. National Highways grid of 100 km is achieved.
9. The road must be up to the standard laid down for State Highways both in its technical requirements as well as the land requirements.
10. The road and right of way must be free of any type of encroachment and should be the property of the State Government.
11. The right of way required for the National Highways (preferably 45m, minimum 30m) must be available for acquiring, free of encroachments and the State Government would complete acquiring formalities within six months.

Construction of Aizawl-Ngopa road

2993. SHRI LALHMING LIANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for construction of Aizawl-Ngopa-Churachandpur (Manipur) road; and

[24 August, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the present positions of the said project-proposal and the likelihood of starting the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Project officers of NHAI

2994. SHRI S. M. LAUAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the NHAI to put projects on fast track;

(b) whether it is a fact that deliberate delays are being enquired by various project officers;

(c) whether any such project officers have been identified;

(d) whether NHAI would upgrade the level of calibre of its project officers; and

(e) the steps proposed to select talent and experienced officers to build over highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Apart from regular officers, experienced and talented officers from various Central Government/State Government Organizations are selected on deputation basis for implementation of NHAI Projects.

Funds allocated for National Highways in Bihar

2995. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of National Highways in Bihar is very bad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and