

inter-alia an Expressway Network of about 18,637 km for completion in prioritized manner in three phases spanning upto the year 2022, has been accepted by the Government. However, from an overall perspective of broad integration of the Expressway Network in the entire country, the exact alignment proposed by various States could not be adhered to by the Consultants while proposing the National Expressway Master Plan in the Final Report.

The Master Plan includes the following segments of National Expressway Corridors passing through the State of Gujarat (i) Ahmedabad-Rajkot (215 km) (ii) Bamanbore-Kandla (210 km) (iii) Surat-Nagpur-Raipur-Kolkata (1760 km) and (iv) Ahmedabad-Ratlam (350 km).

Improvement of border roads in Gujarat

1929. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of ROADS TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting was convened by the officials of Road Transport and Highways with the officials of the State Government of Gujarat in April, 2009;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per the decision taken in this meeting, the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for the improvement of 965 km. of boarder roads in May, 2009;

(c) if so, whether the proposal has been approved by the Central Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State PWD has submitted the proposals to Ministry of Home Affairs being nodal Ministry for border roads. It is intimated by the Ministry of Home Affairs that the technical security of a proposal for a length of 255 km has been completed.

Establishing Expressway Authority to cater high speed traffic

1930. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to establish Expressway Authority a nodal body to facilitate building of over 18,000 kms of roads catering to high speed traffic on the pattern of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and timeframe proposed by Government for this move?;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (b) The Eleventh Five Year Plan document *inter-alia*, envisages setting up of an Expressway Authority of India to formulate and implement a master Plan for 15600 kms of high density access-controlled expressways. The Expressways network plan is at the initial stage of planning. Hence, it is too early to indicate the completion date.

Conversion of single lane highways into double-lane highways in Rajasthan

1931. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of single-lane highways in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Central Government proposes to convert them into double-lane highways;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and their road map for completion;

(d) what is projected financial outlay and what is their present status;

(e) whether the construction has been delayed, if so, the reasons therefor and what is their anticipated completion schedule;

(f) the cost escalation due to delay, project-wise; and

(g) whether any enquiry has been conducted to fix automatically for delay and whether anyone has been punished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (d) The details of single lane highways in Rajasthan are furnished in Statement (*See below*). Government proposes to convert single lane National Highways in Rajasthan to double lane. The details are given in Statement.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.