

expressed their concern over delay in completing the projects, due to delay in land acquisition/utility shifting and inadequate safety arrangement at site. Regular meetings are being held by NHAI higher officials with the concerned State Government to sort out the problems regarding land acquisition, utility shifting etc.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal at present to set up Road Appellate Tribunal and a Sector Regulator. However, the Government is already seized of the various issues relating to roads sector including capacity building. The National Institute for Training of Highway Engineers (NITHE), under the aegis of this Ministry has trained over 18,000 Highways Engineers since 2001. Further contractors involved in externally aided World Bank and Asian Development Bank projects are given exemption on excise/custom duties for modern equipment in road construction.

Delay in execution of two and four lane roads under EW corridor scheme

2696. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is delay in execution of the two-lane/four-lane roads under East-West Corridor scheme as it is not tangibly seen in the North-East area *vis-a-vis* its progress outside North-East region; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. 4 laning has been completed for 2495 km under East-West Corridor of which 198 km is in the North-East Region.

(b) Projects in North-East Region under East-West Corridor have been delayed mainly due to poor performance of some contractors, non-availability of environmental, forest and railway clearances, delays in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, some law and order problems etc.

Online National Register on driving licences and vehicle registration

2697. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized online national register on driving licenses and vehicle registration to detect and prevent fake driving licenses and tracking stolen vehicles;

- (b) if so, whether the State databases will be included into the national register; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) to (c) The Government has already sanctioned a project for computerization of Regional Transport Offices (RTOs)/ State Transport Authorities (STAs), their inter-connectivity as well as creation of national and state registers of motor vehicles at a total cost of Rs.148 crores. Government has also provided assistance to the States in terms of hardware, networking and technical manpower. 100% computerization has been achieved in 27 States/UTs and 908 RTOs have been computerized. Further, 100% connectivity has been achieved in 23 States/UTs. Network connectivity has been established in 888 RTOs. Data from the state register would flow to the national register. The launch of the national register would depend upon the progress made by the States. This project would benefit the citizens and other agencies like police and intelligence agencies including verification of the genuineness of driving licences.

Daily target for construction of roads

2698. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the target set for the construction of roads 'daily' in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) how much road is constructed daily in the country; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to construct roads more faster in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The physical targets set forth during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) for the development of NHs are given in the Statement (*See below*). However, no specific targets were fixed for development of NHs daily in the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(b) During the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the development of NHs has been completed at the rate of about 12.0 km per day upto June, 2010.

(c) In order to revamp the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and expedite award of projects, the Government implemented the recommendations of B.K. Chaturvedi