

Special courts to award road accident insurance claims

3167. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government planned to set up over 600 special courts to award road accident insurance claims within 30 to 45 days and to bring relief to the affected families;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether such courts will undertake the cases of road accidents also along with providing relief to road victims;

(c) if so, the details thereof; 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) to (d) This Ministry had requested Ministry of Law and Justice to set up over 600 District Level Empowered Courts for Road Accident Claims only, which could award the insurance claims within 30-45 days, thereby bringing considerable relief to the affected families and to help in reducing the social trauma and family's despair by making an arrangement for early settlement of the insurance claims. The Ministry of Law and Justice has asked this Ministry to make necessary budgetary provisions. At present, the Ministry has neither any approved scheme nor budget provision for this purpose.

Upgradation of Expressways under Vision 2020

†3168. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Expressways for which Government has proposals for their upgradation under the Vision 2020;

(b) whether Mumbai-Baroda, Mumbai-Nashik-Dhule-Agra, Mumbai-Nagpur-Kolkata, Mumbai-Madgaon, Pune-Kolhapur-Bangaluru and Jaipur-Nagpur- Hyderabad have been included in these proposals; and

(c) if so, their status at present and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The 'Road Development Plan Vision: 2021' prepared by the Ministry in 2001, serves only as a valuable guide to the Union and State Governments for the planning purpose. The document *inter-alia* recommended development of about 15,766 km length of expressways network in phases by the year 2020. The proposal approved by the Government under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-VI, *inter-alia*, include development of expressway connecting Mumbai-Vadodara, which is also identified under Road Development Plan Vision: 2021. The alignment study for this project has been completed and the feasibility study is targeted for completion by December, 2010.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.