

(b) No proposal of up-gradation from State Highway to National Highway has been received from the State Government of Maharashtra after the last declaration of National Highways in February, 2004.

(c) Under the Golden Quadrilateral 489 Kms of National Highways pertains to the State of Maharashtra of which 456 kms. has already been 4 laned and balance is under implementation.

Roads in Bihar

3834. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways, State Highways and other roads in Bihar;

(b) the roads in Bihar whose condition is poor;

(c) the action taken/being taken to improve the condition of roads in Bihar; and

(d) the total funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The Ministry is responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only. The State Highways and other roads in Bihar are the responsibility of the State Government. There are 27 National Highways viz., No.2, 19, 28, 28A, 28B, 30, 30A, 31, 57, 57A, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107 and 110 passing through the State of Bihar having a total length of 3629 Kms.

(b) to (d) The development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon availability of funds and *inter se* priority. During the last six years, works amounting to Rs. 569.69 Crores for the improvement of 2395 Kms of various stretches on National Highways have been sanctioned under different schemes of Improvement of Riding Quality Programme, Strengthening, Widening, Periodical Renewal, Reconstruction & Rehabilitation of bridges. Besides, four laning works of about 206 Kms on Golden Quadrilateral and 513 Kms on East West Corridor under National Highway Development Project Phase-I and Phase-II respectively are at various stages of implementation. So far, National Highway Authority of India has awarded four laning works amounting to Rs. 1324.45 Crores.

Further, 890 Kms of various stretches on National Highways in Bihar have been proposed for upgradation under National Highways Development Project (Phase-III) to be implemented by National Highways Authority of India on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Apart from this, various stretches of National Highways have been identified for improvement and included in the Annual Plan 2005-06 in consultation with the Road construction Department of Bihar. The allocation of funds for the year 2005-06 will depend on the requirement, *inter se* priority and availability of funds.

Boosting of Maritime Sector

3835. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 10 year action plan has been drawn up to boost the maritime sector which, reportedly, includes development of national sea waterways and setting up of a Directorate of Ports to supervise to development of ports; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Declaration of port channels as National Sea Waterways in a phased manner beginning with major ports and their development and maintenance through the Government of India funding as also constitution of a Directorate General of Ports are envisaged in the draft Policy for the Maritime Sector (Ports, Merchant Shipping and Inland Water Transport).

Concurrently, the Government has also taken up preparation of the National Maritime Development Programme which would include specific schemes and projects to be taken up over a period of next 10 years. The total investment in the proposed Programme is estimated to be Rs. 1,00,000 crores. The programme is proposed to be implemented through public private partnership. Public investments are planned primarily for creation of common user infrastructure facilities. Private investments are expected in the areas where operations are primarily commercial in nature.

Expansion of Chennai Port

3836. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: