

(d) if not, the reasons therefor along with the action taken by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir. Employment of Workers engaged in coal mines has not been included as a scheduled employment in the Central Sphere under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Construction of new express highway between Mumbai-Surat

1659. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration with his Ministry in regard to construction of new Express Highway between Mumbai-Surat during the current five year plan period and current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon as on date;

(c) whether the Ministry has conducted any survey in view of road traffic and daily commuters on this route as inter-city transit by road and surface connectivity;

(d) whether the Planning Commission has also taken positive steps for this mega project in the national interest; and

(e) if so, the time by when the proposal is likely to be considered by Government and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (e) There is a proposal for construction of Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway under NHDP Phase-VI on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) which is proposed to pass through Surat District. A Consultant has been commissioned to prepare the Detail Project Report (DPR) for the project.

Construction of NHs

†1660. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the target of constructing 20 km. of National Highways every day as decided by Government;

(b) whether Government has failed to achieve this target;

(c) if so, the reasons for such shortfall; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.