

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Baleshwar-Kharagpur	60	53.41	BOT (Toll)	Upgradation of the section on BOT (Toll) is proposed to be taken up.
13.	Kanaktora-Jharsuguda	200	68.00	BOT (Toll)	Feasibility Completed. Revised PPPAC proposal is under finalization by State PWD

Note: Abbreviations details are as under:

PPPAC : Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee

SFC : Standing Finance Committee under Secretary (RT&H) constituted for appraisal of Central PPP projects as per "Guidelines for appraisal/approval of Central PPP projects" issued by Finance Ministry.

Dilapidated condition of National Highways in Maharashtra

1351. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Highways in Maharashtra State are in a dilapidated condition;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government alongwith the details of the amount sanctioned for the repair of National Highways in Maharashtra State; and
- (d) the time by which the repairing work of NHs in Maharashtra are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Repair and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. An amount of Rs. 51.52 crore has been allocated for the maintenance of National Highways in Maharashtra during 2011-12. The National Highways in Maharashtra are being kept in traffic worthy condition depending on the inter-se-priority of works and available funds.

Capacity to become major ports

1352. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that many ports including Dahej, Veraval, Mangrol and Porbandar in Gujarat have the capacity to become a major port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to make major port out of any port of the State; and

(d) if so, by when the work will commence in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) Based on the potential for future development, strategic importance of the concerned port and keeping national perspective in view, ports are declared to be Major Ports by the Government.

(c) and (d) There are no plans to make major port out of any port of the State of Gujarat.

Pirates in the Indian Ocean

1353. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that west Indian Ocean is still one of the world's most dangerous areas for piracy as our shipping companies have paid millions of dollars in ransom and hundreds of Indian sailors have been abducted by Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether many ocean scientists are seeking security protection and the help to repel Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Incidents of Piracy are on the rise in Western Indian Ocean region. A total of 468 crew were hijacked on Foreign Flag Ships and Indian/Foreign Mechanized Sailing Vessels (MSV) since 21st August, 2008 and 51 still remain in captivity. The ransom paid by owners of foreign flag ships is not known. The Government has initiated various preventive/ mitigating security measures that are as follows:

1. An Inter-Ministerial Group of Officers (IMGO) has been set up to deal with hostage situation arising out of the hijacking of merchant vessels with Indian crew on board.