

(c) whether Government is willing to increase length of planned National Expressway in Gujarat from 725 Kms. to more looking to its industrialization and port development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The Government of Gujarat, during the year 2009, had requested for inclusion of about 2,871 km length of road stretches in the Master Plan, then under formulation by this Ministry. Based on the recommendations of the Consultant appointed for formulation of Expressway Master Plan and the views of Government of Gujarat, Ministry included the following segments passing through the State of Gujarat as National Expressway Corridors: (i) Ahmedabad-Rajkot (215 km) (ii) Bamanbore-Kandla (210 km) (iii) Surat-Nagpur (750 km) and (iv) Ahmedabad-Ratlam (350 km).

However, no investments decisions have been taken so far regarding developing any of the corridors identified in the Master Plan, including the above stretches, as National Expressway.

#### **Awarding of NH projects**

413. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target of awarding projects for construction of Highways in the current financial year;

(b) whether Government is sure to achieve the target of constructing 20 km. road per day; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Highway projects for a length of 7994 km were targeted for award in the year 2011-12 by the National highways Authority of India (NHAI) under National Highways Development Project (NHDP).

(b) and (c) The length completed depends on quantum of work available for completion. NHAI awarded only 5237 km in 2007-08 to 2009-10. This comparatively lower quantum of award in previous years resulted in lesser length available for completion and lower targets/completion rates in subsequent years. The award of projects has since been accelerated and 5059 km were awarded in 2010-11. To meet the target of construction at an average rate 20 km per day i.e. about 7,000 km per year, it is essential that at any given point of time, there should be almost three times this length, i.e. approximately 20,000 km awarded and under construction. With the increase in pace of award, length available for completion and actual completed length is expected to increase. Progress in implementation has also been affected by poor performance of some contractors, delay in obtaining forest/wild life clearances

from Ministry of Environment and Forest, railway clearances for Road Over bridges (ROB's), law and order problems in some States, delay in land acquisition etc.

**Funds for NH works in Maharashtra**

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

- (a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted an annual plan of National Highways works to the Union Government for approval;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the amount approved by the Union Government would be allocated to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A provision of Rs. 395 Crores has been made in the annual plan 2011-12 as proposed by Maharashtra Government.

- (c) A sum of Rs. 266 crores have already been allocated under National Highways (Original) for the State of Maharashtra.

**Four Laning under NHDP-IV in Maharashtra**

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

- (a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposals of inclusion of four laning of National Highways under NHDP-IV work plan of 2012-13;
- (b) if so, the details of proposals submitted and the present status of the proposals thereof; and
- (c) the time by which such proposals are likely to be included in the NHDP-IV scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. State Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposals for inclusion of Indapur to Zarap section of NH-17 (km 84/0 to 450/170) for development on Public Private Partnership (Design, Built, Finance, Operate and Transfer) PPP (DBFOT) mode under NHDP-IV. The proposals are included under NHDP-IV for development to two lane with paved shoulders on PPP (DBFOT).

**Loss in NHAI's non-taxable bonds**

416. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the truth behind controversy about National Highways Authority's mega sale of non-taxable bonds, if any;