

- (d) the details of the targets for their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) to (d) No project for more than three years are pending for approval. The proposals received from State Government are scrutinized in the Ministry depending upon their priority in the approved plans and only technically feasible proposals are considered for approval depending upon availability of funds. However, total 129 proposals for improvements of National Highways (NHs) have been submitted by State Government of Chhattisgarh during the last three years and current year, out of these 62 proposals amounting to Rs. 683.60 crore have been approved.

#### **Hike in the Minimum Road Tax**

1789. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has proposed a hike in the minimum road tax charged by States to 6 per cent; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) and (b) As per Constitution of India, taxation of motor vehicles is a State subject. To bring uniformity in the taxes levied on motor vehicles across States/Union Territories, the Group set up under the Task Force of Transport Development Council (TDC) has recommended a floor rate of 6% of sale price for two-wheelers, cars, light motor vehicles, taxies, maxi cabs, goods vehicles with Gross Vehicle Weight up to 10 ton. The issue regarding harmonisation of motor vehicle taxes was considered in the 34th meeting of the Transport Development Council held on 13.02.2012. The Transport Development Council recommended for referring the issue of rationalisation of motor vehicle taxes to an Empowered Group of Ministers of States after agreeing on a broad framework for arriving at a consensus.

#### **Agreement between NHAI and Expressway Operator**

- †1790. SHRI RAM JEHTMALANI :  
SHRI SHIV ANAND TIWARI :

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that an agreement was signed between National Highways Authority of India and Expressway Operator, Delhi-Gurgaon Super Connectivity Limited for collecting toll-tax from the users of Delhi-Gurgaon expressway;

- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether this agreement was made public to inform the users of this road; and
- (d) if so, the date thereof and if not, the reasons therefor as the commuter's are the basis of such an agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Concession Agreement (CA) was signed with M/s Jaypee DSC Ventures Ltd. (Now M/s Delhi-Gurgaon Super Connectivity Limited) on 18.04.2002 for Conversion of Delhi-Gurgaon Section of NH-8 into access controlled 8/6 lane Highway from Km. 14.300 (Rao Tula Ram Marg in Delhi) to Km. 42.00 (Gurgaon in Haryana) on BOT basis. The project was awarded on Negative Grant of Rs. 61.06 Crore. Total Project Cost (TPC) as per Concession Agreement is Rs. 555 crore. The Appointed Date was 12.01.2003 and the Concession Period is 20 Years (including construction period of 30 Months). The project is under commercial operation since 23.01.2008 (Date of start of collection of Toll). As per Article 6.1 of CA, the Concessionaire is entitled during the operation period to levy, collect and appropriate the fees from the users of the Project Highway.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As per Article XL of Concession Agreement, the Concessionaire made available, at their site office during construction stage, copies of Concession Agreement and other Project Documents for inspection by members of public free of charge during normal business hours on all working days. Now during Operation & Maintenance period the same are available in the office of Concessionaire at Toll Plaza at Km. 24.

#### **Deaths due to Road Accidents**

†1791. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH :

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that approximately 1.34 to 1.5 lakh people are killed annually due to road accidents in India;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the number of road accidents has decreased during global economic slowdown;
- (d) if so, whether this effect is also visible in India; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?