

**Infrastructure investment by National Highways Authority of India**

\*229. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has called for tenders for construction of roads;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that there has been a poor response from contractors in spite of offering subsidy;

(c) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) The remedial steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are variety of reasons for poor response ranging from delays in land acquisition processes, forest environment clearances, availability of equity capital, lenders' stretched resources and general market conditions.

(d) Several measures have been taken by the Government in this regard, such as:

(i) Fast track clearances,

(ii) High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary of State for land acquisition,

(iii) Committee of Secretaries under the Cabinet Secretary to discuss inter-ministerial issues, and

(iv) Constant interaction at the highest level with concessionaires and other stakeholders.

**Cancer deaths among women**

\*230 SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one out of four cervical cancer patients is an Indian;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in India, every seven minutes one woman dies due to complications arising out of cervical cancer;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that cervical cancer is the number one reason for deaths of Indian women, but in metro cities it lags behind cases of breast cancer; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) According to World Health Organisation GLOBOCAN Project, the estimated number of cancer cervix cases world wide is 5,30,000 for the year 2008. According to the latest report of National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on 'Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates (1982-2005)', the estimated number of cancer cervix cases in India for the same period (2008) is about one lakh. The estimated number of deaths due to cervical cancer in Indian women is 52,046 in a year.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, cervical cancer is not the primary reason of deaths in Indian women. However, out of all cancer deaths, cervical cancer is the leading cause of death in women in the country. In urban areas, as per ICMR estimates for the same period, 8377 deaths were due to breast cancer as compared to 8223 deaths due to cervical cancer in women in India.

#### **Rehabilitation of villages from buffer area of forests**

\*231. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seriously considering declaring all areas of Project Tiger as Buffer Forest Zone and removal of all habitat villages from these areas after providing them adequate rehabilitation package;

(b) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has given any direction in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) No, Sir. The buffer area consisting of the area peripheral to critical tiger habitat or core area aim at promoting