

(a) whether Government has any proposal to make alternative National Highway from Sabroom to Kukital *via* Karbook proposed by the State Government of Tripura from 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The road from Sabroom to Kukital is not under consideration for improvement by the Ministry. However, the road from Sabroom to Kukital *via* Karbook is proposed to be improved to National Highway standard under the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP-NE) Phase 'B', which has been approved for DPR preparation only by the Government. The proposal for declaration of the road as National Highway has been received in the Ministry. Expansion of National Highway network is a continuous process and declaration of new National Highway is taken up from time to time depending upon, requirement of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

RFID technology for toll collection

1953. DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to use Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) technology for toll collection on entire National Highways and State Highways network;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by when this decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to ensure seamless movement of vehicles on the National Highways the Government had constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani, Chairman, Unique Identification Authority of India, with a mandate to

examine all available technologies for Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) and recommend the most suitable one for implementation throughout the country. On recommendations of the Committee, RFID based on EPC, Gen-2, ISO 18000-6C Standards for ETC was approved by the Ministry. The Ministry had constituted an Apex Committee for implementation of the Electronic Toll Collection System on the National Highways. The Apex Committee submitted its report containing features and specifications on the following aspects of ETC: (a) RFID tags and transceivers, (b) ETC system architecture and (c) Institutional framework for ETC implementation. The report was accepted by the Ministry and the Specifications for RFID Transceiver, RFID Tag and Data exchange format between Toll Plaza Server and the Central ETC System were notified for implementation. Thereafter the Ministry has assigned the work of implementation of ETC on the national highways to NHAI.

(c) It is already under implementation with the launch of Pilot Project on ETC on 19.04.2012 on Delhi-Parwanoo section of NH-5 and is likely to be fully implemented by 2014.

Identification of malpractice in NHAI Projects

1954. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has identified the malpractice in relation to the estimate cost and toll rate in connection with any of the NHAI projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Condition of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

†1955. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh as on date and the details of their present condition;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.