

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) At present there is no proposal for connecting further State Highways and existing National Highways with Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) project in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Upgradation of existing NH-4 to 4 lane highways

3344. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to upgrade the existing National Highways to 4-lane highways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the highways in Karnataka that will be upgraded?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Permission to clear projects costing upto ₹ 500 crore

3345. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sought permission to clear projects costing upto ₹ 500 crore in an attempt to expedite investment in the further phase of NHDP as the Inter-Ministerial Committee which clears all road projects causes delay; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) In order to address the need for simplification and rationalization of the appraisal and approval procedure, the Government has revised the delegation of powers in respect of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to the effect that the Public funded projects [except projects being implemented under Public Private Partnership] upto the cost of Rs. 500 crore would be appraised by the Standing Finance Committee (SFC)/Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) headed by the Secretary in the Ministry of Road Transport

and Highways with participation of representatives of the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance, provided the cost of the project exceeds Rs. 100 crores, and the same would be approved by the Minister (Road Transport and Highways), subject to availability of necessary/requisite funds in the Annual Plan and Five Year Plan outlay.

**National Highways and bridge construction target
in Jharkhand**

3346. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the physical and financial targets set for construction of National Highways and bridges for the next three years in Jharkhand;
- (b) the details of the work of highways and bridges in progress and under proposal;
- (c) whether priority is being given to Left Wing Extremism (LWE) districts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Target are fixed for the current financial year only. No target has been fixed for construction of National Highways and bridges for the next three years.

(b) At present 39 works of Highways and Bridges are in progress and 5 proposals are in pipe line.

(c) and (d) In order to give priority, roads have been identified and sanctioned in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts under separate scheme. 32 nos of projects in a length of 760 km. are in progress under this scheme in Jharkhand.

Funds regarding development of roads

†3347. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.