

damages to any property of a third party so arising, or both. The Union Government, on its part, proposed amendment to certain Sections of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 inter alia with a view to expediting finalization of motor accident claims and revise the amounts of compensation. Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was passed by Rajya Sabha on 8th May, 2012. It is presently pending in Lok Sabha.

Projects cleared by PPP Appraisal Committee

1507. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since January 2012, how many contracts have been awarded for 4,000 Km of highway projects as these works had got necessary approvals at that point of time;

(b) the number of more projects cleared by the Public-Private-Partnership Appraisal Committee during January-June, 2013; and

(c) the number of contracts that have been awarded for such projects in terms of kilometres and financial allocations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The length of 5,332 km of National Highway (NH) projects have been awarded since January, 2012.

(b) and (c) Eight NH projects have been approved by Public-Private-Partnership Appraisal Committee during the period from January to June, 2013. These projects have not been awarded.

Pedestrians safety in public roads

1508. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal and unauthorized parking encroaching footpath area meant for pedestrians needs to be curbed and whether a bill to increase the deterrence against unlawful parking is still to be enacted;

(b) whether around 15 per cent of the urban population drive to work in cars and buses, yet taking up over 90 per cent of the road space ignoring the rights of pedestrians; and