

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

(c) whether road engineers still use the Indian Roads Congress codes which denies equity of road space to pedestrians and if so, whether Government will take corrective measures to ensure pedestrian safety in public roads?

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

(b) No such study has been undertaken by this Ministry on urban roads, as this Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only.

(c) The Codes of the Indian Roads Congress form the basis for planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of roads in the country and do not as such deny equity of road space to pedestrians. Instructions are issued by the Government, from time to time, to ensure the safety of all categories of road users on National Highways.

#### **Widening of NH-58**

†1509. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding widening of Delhi-Dehradun National Highway No.-58 is pending with Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware that lakhs of vehicles enter Delhi from Dehradun-Meerut, Muzaffarnagar and other districts of Western Uttar Pradesh through National Highway-58 everyday; and

(c) whether Government would take necessary action to convert Delhi-Dehradun route into six lanes immediately in view of the above?

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

(b) and (c) Six-laning of National Highway (NH) No. 58 from Delhi/Uttar Pradesh border to Meerut is envisaged under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase VI. Four laning of NH 58 from Meerut to Muzaffarnagar has been completed and from Muzaffarnagar to Nepali Farm via Haridwar and NH-72 from Nepali Farm to Dehradun has already been taken up. Based on the existing

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.