

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The total plan outlay for the current fiscal year 2013-14 is Rs.23,500 crore for the Central Sector Roads. Apart from this the target for Internal Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR) is Rs. 14,000 crore during 2013-14.

(b) to (d) The target for construction of highways during 2013-14 is 6,329 km, which translates to construction of NH of about 17 km/day. State-wise target for construction of NHs are not fixed.

During the 1st quarter of current financial year 2013-14 1,183 km of NHs have been constructed, i.e., the rate of construction is about 13 km/day.

Upgradation of roads in tribal areas

1512. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal to construct/upgrade roads in the tribal dominated areas of Jharkhand which are still to be connected by roads if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has requested the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to give them fund directly for the development of roads in tribal dominated areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Ministry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development of National Highways and no proposal has been received in the ministry to construct/upgrade roads for providing connectivity in the tribal dominated areas of Jharkhand.

(b) to (c) No such request has been received from Ministry of Tribal Affairs. However, a provision of Rs 800 crores has been made in the Demand for Grants 2013-14 of this Ministry for Tribal Sub Plan (TSP).

Rates of toll tax on NHs

†1513. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rates of toll tax on National Highways have

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been increased more than double during the last three years consequently the common public are facing difficulty in this period of inflation, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the basis for increasing rates of toll tax under Government rules; and

(c) the heads under which income earned from toll tax is spent by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Government has notified the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates & Collection) Rules, 2008 on 5.12.2008, as amended from time to time, for the projects taken up on or after 05.12.2008. For the stretches completed before 5th December, 2008 the fee collection is as per the National Highways (collection of Fees by any person for the use of Section of National Highways/Permanent Bridge/Temporary Bridge on National Highways) Rules, 1997; the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge-Public Funded Project) Rules, 1997; and the National Highways (Rate of fee) Rules, 1997 for those completed after the date of notification of these Rules. The above mentioned Rtdes have been notified under Section 7 of the National Highways Act, 1956. The user fee on a stretch of National Highway is collected as per the individual Notifications published in the Official Gazette by the Central Government. In cases where a particular stretch of National Highway is entrusted to a State Government/UT, they comply with the Notifications issued by the Central Government. The Quantum of user fee levied depends on the length of the stretch and is revised annually based on the Wholesale Price Index as per rule. The user fee so collected by the NHAI is immediately remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).

Fast construction of roads in naxal belts

1514. SHRI. BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various State/UT Governments have asked the Union Government for additional police force to help fast construction of roads in naxal belts in their region, if so, the details thereof: