

all the small and big cities of the country due to rise in the number of private vehicles during last few years; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to check this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) It is a general experience that small and big cities are facing traffic congestion due to increase in private vehicles. The measures to encourage a shift from private (two-wheelers and cars) mode of transport to public transport in order to check the alarming increase of private vehicles has to be a joint endeavour of the Central, State and local Governments. For popularizing the public transport, the Central Government is emphasizing on providing quick, comfortable, reliable, safe, affordable and quality public transport as envisaged in the National Urban Transport Policy, 2006 announced by Ministry of Urban Development. Accordingly, the Central Government is supporting various public transport projects such as Metro Rail, Bus Rapid Transport System and modern city bus services as per urban bus specifications in various cities. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is also implementing a scheme for providing one time central assistance to the extent of 50% of the project cost for Information Technology related projects to States/State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs) for strengthening their public transport system.

Extension of NH-12

†3961. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Rajasthan has sent any proposals to Central Government for the extension of National Highway No. 12;

(b) if so, whether it has been granted approval;

(c) if so, technical and economic details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.