

(b) whether Government has framed any scheme to develop National Highways with State participation by way of contributing finances; if so, since when was the scheme brought into force;

(c) whether Government of Goa has approached the Union Government or the Highway Authority in this regard; and

(d) the details as regards the reply given by Government or the Authority in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The Government of Goa has initiated action for engaging consultant for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for upgradation of NH 17.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Plan to use solar power for lighting National/State Highways

879. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to use solar power for lighting on National/State Highways in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has devised any mechanism for monitoring and maintenance of traffic and other solar powered lights that may be used on National Highways, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. The use of solar lighting is proposed on wayside rest areas along the National Highways.

(b) The provision of maintenance of solar powered lights for three years, as part of wayside rest areas, is included in the bids invited. The monitoring is to be done by the concerned highway authorities.

Financial assistance to Government of Goa by NHAI

880. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: