

NHs in the country are kept in traffic worthy condition from time to time within the available resources based upon the assessment of their condition depending upon traffic density and *inter-se* priority of works.

(c) and (d) Out of the proposals amounting Rs. 3,539.91 crore received from the State Governments including Kerala for Periodical Renewal (PR) of NHs during 2013-14, proposals amounting to Rs. 2,360.98 crore have been sanctioned till December, 2013 and the remaining proposals are at various stages of approval.

Four laning on Agra-Mumbai National Highway

†1708. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in principle approval has been given for four laning upto Gwalior-Guna-Shajapur-Devas city on National Highway-3 which is also known as Agra-Mumbai National Highway;

(b) if so, the time when in principle approval was given;

(c) whether approval to construct a bypass in Shajapur city on this very national highway was also given;

(d) whether approval to construct a rail overbridge at Maksi railway line on the same national highway was also given;

(e) the reasons for not undertaking the said approved works; and

(f) by when, the said works would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The in-principal approval for four laning of Gwalior-Guna-Shajapur-Devas city on National Highway (NH)-3, was given in 2011.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Four-laning of Gwalior-Shivpuri section was awarded to M/s Essel Gwalior-Shivpuri Toll Roads Pvt. Ltd. However the concessionaire has not yet started the four laning work. Four-laning of Shivpuri-Dewas section has been awarded to M/s GVK Shivpuri-Dewas Expressway Pvt. Ltd. However the concessionaire has withdrawn from the project and presently the matter is sub-judice in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) As per Concession Agreement, scheduled date of completion for Gwalior-Shivpuri section is 12.11.2015. For Shivpuri-Dewas section, the date of completion will depend on the outcome of the Court order as the matter is *sub-judice*.

Inquiry against RIL in respect of Airport Metro Express

1709. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has taken over the operation of Airport Metro Express from the Reliance Infrastructure Limited, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether RIL has invoked the termination clause and claimed termination payment due to DMRC failing to cure substantial defects in the civil structure designed and built by it within the period prescribed under the Concession Agreement, if so, the details thereof along with Government's response thereto; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with other corrective steps taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) has taken over the operation of Airport Metro Express Line from the close of business operating hours of 30th June, 2013. M/s Delhi Airport Metro Express Private Limited (DAMEPL), the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) formed by Reliance Infra Limited and CAF JV, informed DMRC on 27th June, 2013 that they will not be responsible for the Project after the close of business operating hours of June 30, 2013 and asked DMRC to take over the Project and the Assets. Therefore, in the larger public interest, DMRC decided to take over the operations of the Airport Express Line from the close of business operating hours of 30th June, 2013.

(b) Yes, Sir. Reliance Infra Limited has invoked the Termination clause and claimed Termination payments from DMRC. DMRC, in response to the notice issued by DAMEPL dated 9th July, 2012, informed DAMEPL on 5th October, 2012 that the defects identified by DAMEPL have been cured and it is not correct to say that DMRC failed to cure the substantial defects in the civil structure within the prescribed period under the Concession Agreement. DMRC also informed DAMEPL that the notice of default was against the provisions of Concession Agreement. However, DAMEPL decided to terminate the Concession Agreement on 8th October, 2012. DMRC has also invoked the Arbitration mechanism available within the Concession Agreement