

- (b) whether the proposal was examined in the Ministry; and
- (c) if so, by when the State Government would be advised of the approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) to (c) A proposal amounting to Rs. 29.25 crore under Economic Importance Scheme was submitted by State Government of Karnataka in July-2012. The proposals are considered depending upon *inter-se-priority* and availability of funds. However, the proposal of Karnataka could not be accommodated in the *inter-se-priority*.

Agitations against collection of Toll Tax

2890. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the recent agitations and complaints against collection of exorbitant toll tax/collection of toll on NHs and State highways; if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and

(b) whether Government is considering to review the current toll tax policy on National Highways and State Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry is dealing on regular basis with such issues. Nature of Complaints and action taken thereof is given below.

1. Misbehaviour by the employees—After verification, the concerned employees were warned/removed from the duty. Agencies were directed to provide proper training to employees for good behaviour.
2. Bad condition of road—Action taken for immediate repair and maintenance of road.
3. Poor maintenance of Amenities like toilets etc.—Necessary directions were issued to the Concessionaires to maintain the amenities properly.

4. Delay in toll collection at the plaza/closure of lanes—Agencies were asked to engage efficient staff so that there may not be any abnormal delay and to keep all lanes in operation all the time.
5. Shortage of change (coins)—Agencies/Concessionaires were asked to arrange sufficient change to avoid delay in clearing a vehicle.
6. Overcharging—Necessary action has been taken against the Agencies found indulged in overcharging by levying penalties/ termination of contract as per Contract Provisions.

(b) No, Sir.

NH projects implemented in Tamil Nadu

2891. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of National Highway Projects implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);
- (b) the details of the funds earmarked for these projects; and
- (c) the tentative time by which these projects would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) to (c) 47 number of works amounting to Rs. 13079.00 crore have already been completed in the State of Tamil Nadu till date under various phases of National Highways Development Projects (NHDP) by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). Besides 12 number of works amounting to Rs. 8648.60 crore are in various stage of progress which are to be completed by November, 2015.

Decrease in construction of NH

†2892. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decrease in the construction of National Highways during 2004-2014 as compared to 1998-2004; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.