

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Increasing length of roads

2896. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Karnataka seeking approval for increasing the length of roads from 1250 to 2250 kms., if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Centre has taken any steps to examine the proposal; and

(c) if so, the response of Government in this regard and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. 29 fresh proposals for declaration of roads/stretch as new National Highways have been received from the State Government of Karnataka. Out of these proposals, one road stretch i.e. Udupi (NH-17) to Thirthalli (NH-13) via Hebbari-Agumbe of Karkala Taluk in Karnataka (87.60 kms), has been declared as new National Highway. Expansion of National Highway network is a continuous process and declaration of new National Highway is taken up from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

Foundation stone of additional bridge

2897. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble Minister (RT and H) laid foundation stone of the additional bridge on "Narmada" river at Zadeshwar on 01 May, 2012;

(b) if so, the details of work that has been done since then;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with the progress of work; and