

of NH bypasses to five major cities namely Calicut, Kochi, Alappuzha, Kollam and Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala have been taken up. The work of Cochin bypass is already completed, the balance work in 5km length of Calicut bypass is in progress and the works on Alappuzha, Kollam and Thiruvananthapuram bypasses are in tender stage. The bypass works are planned to be completed in 30 months time period from the date of awards.

Tanakpur-Pithoragarh National Highway

†3488. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tanakpur-Pithoragarh road located in Uttarakhand has been declared as a National Highway;

(b) if so, the name of the agency responsible for maintenance and construction work of the road;

(c) whether the Minister is aware of the fact that the above said road is not being maintained properly and the work is lacking in quality also; and

(d) whether the Minister would consider to hand over the maintenance and construction work of this road to some other agency in place of the present agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Border Roads Organization (BRO) is the implementing agency of this Ministry for development and maintenance of Tanakpur-Pithoragarh section of National Highway No.-125 in Uttarakhand.

(c) Due to cloudburst, heavy rains and its location in hilly terrain with slide prone stretches, this road gets frequently damaged. BRO is making all out efforts to maintain this road in trafficable condition with the shortest possible period of time

(d) To ensure that BRO may concentrate for development and maintenance of high altitude with strategic importance roads in border areas, it has been planned to transfer the Tanakpur-Pithoragarh section of NH-125 to Uttarakhand PWD w.e.f. 1st April 2015.

Six-laning of National Highways

3489. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated and disbursed funds for the six-laning of National Highways in the country during the last three years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.