

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent therein during the above -period, NH-wise;

(c) the effective measures taken by Government to create six-lane NHs and for the connectivity of major cities in the country; and

(d) the quantum of six-laning of NHs done in Tamil Nadu, so far, and the work still to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (d) The Government has approved six-laning of 6,500 km of NHs comprising entire Golden Quadrilateral of about 5,700 km and other 800 km identified high density NH corridor under Phase-V of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) in October, 2006. As on May, 2014, 6-laning has been completed in 1,999 km and out of this 221.6 km is in Tamil Nadu.

Funds for development of National Highways are not made NH-wise rather it is either made State-wise or agency-wise. During the last three years, ₹ 63,850.34 crore has been allocated to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for implementation of NHDP including 6-laning of NHs under Phase-V of NHDP and out of this ₹ 51,631.47 crore has been spent.

Relief to West Bengal for road accidents

3490. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any relief to West Bengal to cope with and curb the number of road accidents and victims thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise and the number of such victims during the last three years and the steps taken to reduce these numbers;

(c) whether Government has any new plans with regard to road safety and preventing road accidents in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has set up a Driving Training Institute (DTI) at Jessore Road, West Bengal to impart driving training, both theoretical and practical to the existing and aspiring drivers under the scheme of setting up of Driving Training Institute. MoRTH has also provided

4 number of hill cranes, 7 number of 10 ton cranes and 17 number of ambulances to the State of West Bengal for relief and rescue measures in the aftermath of accidents by way of evacuating road accident victims to nearest medical aid centre and for clearing the accident site under the scheme of National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme (NHARSS). As per the publication the “Road Accidents in India 2012, the details of number of road accidents and number of persons killed during 2010 to 2012 in West Bengal are as under:-

Year	No. of road accidents	No. of persons killed
2010	14,888	5,680
2011	14,945	5,664
2012	12,290	5,397

The Government has also taken the following steps to minimize road accidents in the country:-

- (i) The Government has formulated a National Road Safety Policy. This Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws etc.
- (ii) The Government has constituted National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety. The Ministry has requested all States/UTs for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees.
- (iii) The Ministry has advised to the States to adopt a multi pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on four E's of Road Safety viz. (i) Education (ii) Enforcement (iii) Engineering (roads as well as vehicles) and (iv) Emergency care.
- (iv) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at the planning stage.
- (v) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways/Expressways.
- (vi) Establishment of driving training institutes.
- (vii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles like helmets, seat belts, power-steering, rear view mirror.
- (viii) Publicity campaigns on road safety awareness.

(c) and (d) The Government is in the process of drafting a new Motor Vehicle Act in place of the existing Motor Vehicle Act, 1988, covering all issues related to motor vehicle and road safety.

Four-laning of Yamuna Nagar-Panchkula Highway

3491. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private concessionaire has pulled out of the four-laning project of the Yamuna Nagar-Panchkula Highway (NH-73);

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for inordinate delay in getting all mandatory clearances for the project; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government for execution of the project in a time bound manner in order to avoid further escalation of the construction cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (c) The four-laning project of Yamuna Nagar-Panchkula section of NH-73 (Old) awarded to the private Concessionnaire on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) - Toll has been foreclosed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The Concessionnaire M/s. Yamunanagar Panchkula Highway Private Ltd. had requested to foreclose the project because the clearance for wild life sanctuary from National Board for Wild Life (NBWL) was not given for commencement of work by the Concessionnaire on ground. NHAI has already initiated the process for taking up the four-laning of this project under EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) mode except the stretches passing through wild life sanctuary.

Setting up of National Highways construction company

3492. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a National Highways Construction Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its terms of reference, aims and objectives; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to speed up road construction projects and also ensure that the agencies carry out work swiftly without sitting on funds?