

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) Yes Sir, There is a specific provision under Design, Build, Finance, Operate & Transfer (DBFOT) contract where the concessionaire is under obligation to maintain the project highway during the concession period in accordance with the specified standards laid down in the agreement. There is also provision in Engineering Procurement & Construction (EPC) contract for maintenance of project highway for a period of 4 years by the contractor upon completion of construction. In Operation, Maintenance and Toll (OMT) contract, the concessionaire is under obligation to maintain the project highway for the entire concession period.

(b) In DBFOT projects, performance security is taken from the concessionaire which is retained till expenditure on project construction is not less than 20% of the Total Project Cost; provided, however, that the performance security is not released if the concessionaire is in breach of this agreement. Performance security is taken from contractor in EPC contract and the same is retained till completion of DLP. In OMT projects performance security is taken from concessionaire which is retained upto ensuring all the obligations of the concessionaire under the concession agreement including the maintenance obligation.

(c) During the last 3 years bank guarantees have been encashed in three instances due to non fulfillment of maintenance obligations by concessionaire.

Poor condition of Delhi-Dehradun National Highways

†1316. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the stretch between Muzaffarnagar and Dehradun on the Delhi-Dehradun National Highway is not fit for plying vehicles;

(b) if so, when was the decision taken to convert the Delhi-Dehradun National Highway into four lane;

(c) whether the construction work has been completed;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the construction work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL) : (a) to (e) Delhi-Dehradun Highway (NH-58) is four laned respect in stretches Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar and Haridwar-Dehradun where

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

construction work is in progress and is anticipated to be completed by June, 2015. The stretch between Muzaffarnagar to Dehradun was damaged and action to restore it to a traffic worthy condition has been undertaken by NHAI. The delay in completion of 4 laneing is due to true to Poor planning, inadequate plan and machinery and financial problems of the concessionaire.

Ahmedabad-Dandi heritage route

1317. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had declared to develop the Ahmedabad-Dandi heritage route in the year of 2005;
- (b) if so, the present status of this project and the amount spent thereon; and
- (c) whether any proposal has been received from Gujarat subsequently and the amount earmarked for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (c) Prime Minister during his visit to Dandi on 6th April 2005 had announced that the route connecting Ahmedabad to Dandi would be declared a heritage path. Subsequently, in June 2006, this Ministry declared it as a National Highway (NH-228). Since the functions of National Highway (NH) and the heritage route are distinct, it was earlier decided to delink the development of NH-228 from development of heritage path and to plan improvement of the NH as per relevant parameters and existing procedures of this Ministry. Accordingly, this Ministry had finalized the alignment taking into account the existing geometrics, minimum requirement of land acquisition for further geometric improvements and future prospect of development of the National Highway corridor. The alignment of NH-228 thus finalized was conveyed to the State Government on 23.11.2012 requesting for "No Objection" as it included State Highways and other arterial roads. The State Government did not support the proposed alignment.

The issue of the alignment was again discussed with the official of Government of Gujarat in a meeting taken by the Secretary RT&H on 12th March 2014 wherein it was decided that entire alignment be re-visited by Ministry's officers alongwith State Govt. officials and a joint report on alignment be presented. Accordingly joint inspection of the alignment was carried out. Subsequently, a meeting was held on 5th June, 2014 under chairmanship of Secretary, (RT&H) and it was decided that Govt. of Gujarat shall prepare and submit the revised alignment of Dandi Route giving chainage wise details in