

Easier exit option for road developers

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

- (a) whether Government is working on a new set of norms for exit options for road developers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the new norms would be in favour of National Highways Authority of India in respect of banking performance/security guarantee; and
- (d) by when the norms are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However Government is working on exploring the possibility of bringing about uniformity in the executed concession agreements, till date.

Construction of National Highway in Himachal Pradesh

†885. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a National Highway from Delhi to Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh on India-Tibet border *via* Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh to Atal in Uttarakhand and Hatkoti-Rohru in Himachal Pradesh is under Government's consideration;
- (b) if so, whether Government would grant approval to this National Highway immediately; and
- (c) if so, by when this National Highway would be given approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) Delhi is connected to Hatkoti *via* Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, Atal in Uttarakhand and Hatkoti in Himachal Pradesh through old National Highways Nos. 24, 58, 73, 72A, 72 and 72B. However, Kinnaur District in Himachal Pradesh near India-Tibet Border is connected to Delhi *via* Ambala in Haryana, Shimla, Theog, Rampur and Wangtoo in Himachal Pradesh through Old National Highways Nos. 1 and 22 but not connected to Hatkoti *via* Rohru through National Highway. Consideration of a road for declaration as National Highway by this Ministry is a continuous process, taking into consideration the overall network connectivity of the region, *inter-se* priority of the road and the availability of funds.