

(d) if so, whether Government has issued any notice to recover the penalty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) Yes, sir. The expected date of completion of the work is October, 2015 except Junagadh Bypass which is *sub-judice* in Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat. There is a clause for levying damages against the concessionaire for delays if all condition precedents are fulfilled by the National Highways Authority (NHAI). Notice for damages against the concessionaire has not been issued as the delay has been due to land acquisition etc.

#### **Dedicated cycle tracks along roads**

2460. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ:

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any action plan to promote use of bicycles in urban areas of West Bengal and rest of the country and construct bicycle tracks along the roads with central funding to reduce pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has received any demand on this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) The National Urban Transport Policy, 2006 lays emphasis on priority to non-motorized transport including cycling. It stresses on the safety concerns of cyclists and pedestrians by encouraging the construction of segregated rights of way for bicycles and pedestrians. Such segregated paths would be useful not only along arterials, to enable full trips using Non Motorized Transport (NMT) but also as a means of improving access to major public transport stations. The Central Government would give priority to the construction of cycle tracks and pedestrian paths in all cities, to enhance safety and thereby enhance use of non-motorized modes.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

#### **National Highways in Bihar**

2461. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal regarding National Highways from Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount earmarked by Government for the State for road development and repairing so far as the National Highways projects are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) The Ministry has received 5 (five) nos. of proposals amounting to ₹134.815 lakh from the State Road Construction Department, Bihar under National Highway (Original) work in current financial year, by the end of October, 2014. All the 5 (five) proposals for an amount of ₹141.424 lakh have been approved.

(c) The Ministry has allocated ₹387.81 Crore under National Highway (Original) head and ₹155.34 Cr under Maintenance Head for National Highway of the State of Bihar in the current financial year 2014-15.

#### **Introduction of BS norms**

2462. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 80 per cent of the Indian cities violate the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) concentration;

(b) whether Government is planning to introduce BS-IV, BS-V and BS-VI norms across the country by 2017, 2020 and 2024 respectively as per the Auto Fuel Vision and Policy Committee Report, 2013; and

(c) what are the steps taken towards achieving this end?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) The Ambient Air Quality is being monitored across the country under the National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) since 1984-85 by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committee (PCCs) and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) which is co-ordinated by the CPCB. There are 580 operating Air Quality Monitoring Stations covering 242 cities, towns and industrial areas in 28 states and 5 Union Territories including 45 metro cities as on 31.10.2014. Three pollutants, namely, Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and PM<sub>10</sub> (particulate matter having size less than 10 micron) are being monitored at all stations. The monitored data for ambient air as processed by CPCB for the last 03 years (2010, 2011 and 2012) reveals that the levels of fine particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> – annual average – 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> exceeded the prescribed norms in 42 out of 45 metro cities monitored during 2012.