

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame by when this project would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Government of India is in the process of evolving a model of port-led development through the Sagar Mala Project which would connect the ports with their hinterland through road, rail, inland waterways and coastal shipping and also promote comprehensive growth of the hinterland.

Reduction in fitness age of private vehicles

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

(a) whether Government proposes to reduce the fitness age of private vehicles from 15 years to 10 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the number of privately owned unfit vehicles from the roads and prevent such vehicles from holding up traffic due to frequent break downs in the middle of the street?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) No Sir, There is no such proposal to reduce the fitness age of private vehicle from 15 years to 10 years at present.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) As per sub-section (7) of section 41 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (MV Act) a certificate of registration issued under sub-section 3 of section 41 of MV Act, in respect of a motor vehicle, other than a transport vehicle, shall, subject to provisions contained in the MV Act, be valid only for a period of 15 years from the date of issue of such certificate and shall be renewable. The renewal of the certificate of registration is done based on the fitness of the motor vehicle as per the provisions contained in section 44 and 45 of the MV Act by the Registering Authority under the concerned State Governments. Rule 62 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 (CMVRs), provides that for a transport vehicle a certificate of fitness granted under section 56 of MV Act shall be granted or renewed for two years in respect of new vehicles and shall be renewed for one year at a time subsequently.

As per Rule 115 (7) of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 (CMVRs), after the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which the motor vehicle was first registered, every such vehicle shall carry a valid "Pollution under control" certificate issued by an agency authorized for this purpose by the State Government. The validity of the certificate shall be for six months and the certificate shall always be carried in the vehicle and produced on demand. The validity of the certificate shall be twelve months for the vehicles manufactured as per Bharat State-IV norms.

Solar and wind energy in West Bengal

*359.SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made to exploit the potential of solar and wind energy in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the districts identified for the development of solar and wind energy;

(c) the details of progress made in putting up of an action plan in this regard; and

(d) how long it would take to implement it in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) **Solar Energy:** Three Solar Radiation Resource Assessment (SRRA) stations have been set up by the Ministry through National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), Chennai at the following locations in West Bengal:

| Sl. No. | Location | District |
|---------|--|-------------|
| 1. | Bengal Engineering Science University, Shibpur | Howrah |
| 2. | Domkal | Murshidabad |
| 3. | Jalpaiguri Govt. Engineering College | Jalpaiguri |

The estimated potential of Solar Energy in West Bengal is 6.26 GWp.