

the resources cess/toll is being levied. With the improvement of roads, road users will save substantially in terms of vehicle operating cost and time. As such, question of burden does not arise.

Revival of highway projects

1232. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several highway projects have not made any progress and are stuck midway and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Central Government has taken policy decision to revive highway projects that have become unviable and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed scheme would be applicable for both Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) projects and those on Government funding or Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and the intention behind this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Delay in land acquisition and Statutory Clearances, local law and order issues, shortage of construction material etc. are main factors contributing to delay in implementation of National Highway (NH) projects under National Highways Development Project (NHDP). Most of these are addressed with the support of the respective State Governments and attempts taken by the Government to streamline the process for such statutory clearances. Government is also considering one time fund infusion to revive and physically complete some of these languishing projects being implemented on Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode of delivery only. This proposal of moderate fund infusion would help physical completion of languishing NH projects expeditiously bringing relief thereby, to the citizens/highway users in the area as it is the primary responsibility of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, being the custodian of public interest, to ensure completion of on-going NH projects as per schedule thereby causing minimum inconvenience to the highway users.

Roads financed from CRF

†1233. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.