

(b) and (c) 9 major ports are identified for port connectivity under National Highway Development Project (NHDP). Out of these 7 Projects have been completed, 1 project has been handed over to the State Government of Goa and for the remaining projects in Tamil Nadu, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has taken up with the concerned State Authorities to expedite shifting of project affected families to ensure time bound completion of the project. Besides, the project is monitored at various levels for timely completion.

Identification of difficult stretches of highways

2023. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. has identified certain stretches of highways in difficult areas for development;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to fast track highway construction projects in difficult terrains of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation limited (NHIDCL) has been incorporated on 18th July 2014 with the objective to survey, establish, design, build, operate, maintain and upgrade National Highways and other infrastructure including inter-connecting roads with focus on the North Eastern region and Strategic Areas of the country sharing international boundaries with neighboring countries. The projects are to be implemented by NHIDCL as an Executing Agency of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways in phased manner. The NHIDCL has already set up its offices at Guwahati, Imphal, Agartala and Itanagar for implementation of projects assigned to it. Details of the stretches identified are as under:

Sl.No.	Stretches	Length in Km
1.	Proposed projects to be financed by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in North Eastern Region (Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram and Nagaland)	1500
2.	Projects under Asian Development Bank (ADB) funding in Manipur and West Bengal	300
3.	New NHs (Predominantly in the NER) other than those facilitating inter-district connectivity	2000

Sl.No.	Stretches	Length in Km
4.	SARDP-NE Phase A & B in Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland	5300
5.	Reconstruction of NHs in Uttarakhand	889
	TOTAL	10000

Transit of passengers and vehicles among four SAARC Nations

2024. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to provide seamless transit of passengers, personal and cargo vehicles among SAARC nations of India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it would be implemented and whether other members of SAARC have also expressed interest to join the agreement with reciprocal arrangement and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To reduce cost and time consuming process and make cross border trade and transport more efficient and to help transform transport corridors linking the four countries into economic corridors and enhance people to people contact, the text of a Motor Vehicle Agreement among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) as a sub-regional arrangement has been finalized in a meeting of Transport Secretaries of these countries held in February, 2015.

(c) The Agreement can be implemented only after it is approved by the competent authorities in each country and signed on conclusion of the negotiations and detailed operating procedures and protocols are finalized among the four countries. The Agreed draft of the BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement has provisions to enable more SAARC Nations to join this framework.

Patrolling on highways

†2025. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide patrolling/monitoring on all National Highways in the country, and if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.