

(b) what are Government's plans for development of NH-8C connecting Gandhinagar to Ahmedabad in terms of six laning and construction of flyovers at busy junctions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.) : (a) and (b) National Highway No. 8C (New NH No. 147) has been omitted from the schedule of National Highway Act 1956 (48 of 1956) *vide* The Gazette of India Notification No. S.O. 696(E) dated 10.03.2015. Now, State Government of Gujarat is responsible for the development and maintenance of Chiloda-Ghandinagar-Sarkhej road in future.

Finance for Highways

367. SHRI MAJEED MEMON : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has approached the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to lend its financial support in an upcoming issue of infrastructure bonds by NHAI;

(b) whether EPFO has sought a Government's guarantee before committing any funds for investment;

(c) whether, in view of cumbersome procedure involved in approval and land acquisition, no fresh financing is expected from banks also; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) No.

(c) No. Banks continue to lend to highway projects.

(d) Does not arise.

NH link between Goa and Belgaum

368. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the ongoing National Highway project in Karnataka, any NH link has been approved connecting Goa and Belgaum;

- (b) whether NH-4A linking Goa with Belgaum in Karnataka has been included for budgetary support during 2015-16;
- (c) if so, whether both technical and financial bids have been prepared and vendors selected for its early completion; and
- (d) the details of outlay for the project and the likely date of completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.) : (a) to (d) The work of 4-laning of Belgaum-Khanapur and 2-laning with paved shoulders of Khanapur-Goa/KNT Border of NH-4A was earlier awarded to the Concessionaire on DBFOT (Toll) basis during the year 2010. The project could not be started due to forest and wildlife clearance. Since the project is to be implemented under DBFOT (Toll) scheme, no budgetary provision is required to be made. Committee on infrastructure has been requested for early approval of Forest and wildlife clearance.

Expansion of roads and bridges in Karnataka

369. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received some proposals from the Karnataka Government for expansion of roads and bridges in the State;
- (b) if so, the number of proposals approved during each of the last three years;
- (c) the details of funds allocated for the purpose;
- (d) the number of proposals still lying with Government awaiting clearance and the date from which these are pending; and
- (e) by when the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (e) During the last three years 24 proposals for expansion of existing NHs and bridges have been approved and there are no proposals pending with Government for clearance. A sum of Rs.700 cr. has been allocated for the NH works during the last three years.

Uniform procedure for app-based taxi services

370. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is fast tracking the task to come out with uniform