

- (d) whether the repairing work on the said NHs is going on at slow pace; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor along with the action taken by Government to expedite completion of repairing work and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (e) Development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process, depending upon availability of fund and inter-se priority. National Highways in Assam are maintained in trafficable condition. During the last financial year 2014-15, works amounting to about ₹ 91.00 crore were sanctioned by the Ministry for the repair and maintenance of NHs. Allocation of fund amounting to ₹ 92.25 crore has been made and works amounting about to ₹ 51.65 crore have been sanctioned during current year 2015-16, for repair and maintenance of NHs in the State of Assam.

Probe into irregularities in toll collection on Delhi-Jaipur Highway

902. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CBI has started a probe related to manipulations in Delhi-Jaipur Highway toll collection;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with names of companies against which enquiry is registered;
- (c) the details of complaints registered along with the respective authorities responsible for manipulations in toll collections, misbehaviour, etc.; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure proper functioning of tolls across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a Preliminary Enquiry in the matter against unknown officers/officials of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and office bearer of M/s. Pink City Expressway Pvt. Ltd. (PCEPL) on 22.10.2014.

- (d) Various steps have been taken to ensure proper functioning of tolls across the country, which include hosting of Concession Agreements on the website of NHAI, setting up of a comprehensive portal, Toll Information System (TIS), in public domain to provide updated information of all toll plazas, applicable user fee rates,

fee notification, discounts/concessions to local and frequent users etc. and transmission of toll data from 19 toll plazas under 9 revenue sharing projects to central server of NHAI on the real time basis and appointment of an Independent Auditor for auditing of the data received.

Upgradation of roads to NHs

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

(a) whether Government proposes to upgrade roads/highways in the country to National Highways (NHs);

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the time by which they are likely to be upgraded;

(c) whether Government also proposes to build/upgrade highways between Karnataka and neighbouring States; and

(d) if so, the details and the present status thereof along with the details of feasibility study conducted by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) Expansion of National Highway network is a continuous process and declaration of new National Highways is taken up from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, *inter-se*-priority and availability of funds.

Construction work on Jashpur-Ambikapur road

904. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned and the width of the road from Jashpur to Ambikapur *via* Pathalgaon in Chhattisgarh;

(b) when the tender process would start therefor; and

(c) whether bypasses required in Jashpur town, Pathalgaon and at Gumla, where NH-43, starts, would be constructed under the project?