

Expansion of National Highways in Kerala

1708. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated steps to build and expand National Highways in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how much amount has been spent annually on the above during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) Development of NH 17 and NH 47 to 4 lane standard in the State of Kerala is taken up by National Highways Authority of India for which appointment of consultants for preparation of Detailed Project Reports are in progress. Works amounting to ₹ 2078 cr. have also been included in Annual Plan 2015-16 and total 28 works amounting to ₹ 2328 cr. are in various stage of progress in the State of Kerala.

- (c) The details of the amount spent on development and maintenance of National Highways in Kerala during last 5 years are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Year	NH(O) (Plan)	Maintenance & Repair (Non Plan)	BOT Projects including land acquisition	Port connectivity Projects including land acquisition
2010-2011	109.00	48.00	99.65	146.90
2011-2012	153.70	26.70	34.25	26.15
2012-2013	151.20	30.00	113.30	51.30
2013-2014	258.90	39.30	273.00	24.25
2014-2015	67.20	146.30	582.50	23.10

Closure of toll plazas

†1709. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that toll plazas throughout the country have not been closed despite the assurance for closing them;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, by when toll plazas would be closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) Sir, as per fee rules fee is to be collected in perpetuity. However Fee shall be levied and collected at a reduced rate of 40% at the end of concession period in case of private investment project and on recovery of capital cost in case of public funded project. Further in cases where collection of Fee is not viable, those fee plazas are discontinued.

Financial assistance from JBIC for highway and expressway projects

1710. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government is Seeking financial assistance from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for highway and expressway projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to use JBIC funds for any of the ongoing or new highway projects in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Facilities for drivers at highway villages

†1711. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the facilities likely to be made available for drivers at highway villages and the authority responsible for its maintenance;
- (b) whether these would be constructed on old highways also alongwith the estimated cost of its construction and the radius of the area, in kilometres within which it would be constructed; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.