

(b) whether Government has fixed any target to increase this to 5 per cent in future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) India has about 52.32 lakh km. length of road network as per latest available information. Out of this, the total length of National Highways (NHs) network is about 1,00,475 km. which is about 1.9 % of the total road network.

(b) and (c) The priority of the Government is to develop and maintain the existing National Highways. Expansion of National Highways (NHs) network is a continuous process and declaration of State Roads as new NHs is taken from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. However, there is no plan to increase the total length of NHs network to 5% of the total road network in the Country.

**Revamping, development and repairing
of National Highway in Bihar**

†2515. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the recent election campaign in Bihar, the Prime Minister has announced to revamp, develop and repair National Highways in the State;

(b) the details of length of such highways along with the expenditure estimated therefor and the time-frame for its completion; and

(c) the details of funds released to the State Government, so far, for construction of highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) Ministry is not concerned with election campaign in any State including Bihar. However before election in Bihar Hon'ble Prime Minister announced to develop and upgrade 2700 km. length of National Highways (NHs) including major bridges across the major rivers with estimated cost of ₹ 54000 crore in the State of Bihar. These projects are targeted for completion within 2 to 5 years from the date of start of the projects depending upon availability of land which will be acquired by Land Acquisition Authority of State Government.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Ministry has allocated ₹ 622.21 crore for maintenance and development of National Highways to the State Government of Bihar other than the fund allocated to National Highways Authority of India for development of the NHs.

Funds for repair and maintenance of NHs

2516. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and length of highways passing through West Bengal;
- (b) the details of funds allocated by the Central Government for maintaining and repairing of these highways during the last three years;
- (c) whether States are not allocated the required funds to maintain and repair the highways;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the proportion in which the States are allocated funds as per the Ministry's maintenance norms *vis-a-vis* their demand for funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) 27 number of National Highways comprising the length of 2909.80 km. pass through State of West Bengal.

(b) The allocation of funds by Central Government for maintaining and repairing of National Highways in West Bengal during last 3 years are as follows:

2013-14	₹ 78.30 crore
2014-15	₹ 103.82 crore
2015-16	₹ 68.40 crore

(c) to (e) The funds for maintenance and repair of National Highways are made based upon lane length of NHs entrusted with States/UTs, liabilities against sanctioned works and availability of resources. Requests for enhancement of allocation of funds for maintenance and repair of NHs are received from States/UTs from time to time. However, it has not been possible to entertain such requests as the allocation made available to this Ministry are of the order of about 45% of the requirement as per norms.

Renewal of fitness certificates

2517. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made a proposal for getting fitness certificate of vehicle renewed from any where in the country irrespective of the place of registration;