

Highways. The development programme of the Ministry as planned earlier will continue in respect of National Highways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of the sanctioned works get delayed due to problems of land acquisition, shifting of utilities, cutting of trees and law and order for National Highways Development Project. For other National Highways, some works get delayed due to erratic supply of Bitumen and slack performance of the contractor.

(e) and (f) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The NHAI has been seeking the help of the Government of Bihar from time to time for resolving the problems encountered during the implementation of the works. The situation has now improved with the steps taken.

Separate Road Maintenance Fund

464. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has proposed a separate "Road Maintenance Fund" through fuel tax and user charges for development of Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) the amount World Bank has invested in India's transport sector during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the manner in which the said amount has been utilised and the extent of work done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected.