vehicle is replaced, and where a vehicle covered by a tourist permit is proposed to be replaced by another, the latter vehicle shall not be more than 2 years old on the date of such replacement.

(c) Ministry has issued draft notification GSR 425(E) dated 18th April, 2016 specifying the size and structure of articulated vehicles engaged by automobile manufacturers to carry motor vehicles from their factories to different sale outlets in the country.

## Extension and construction of median on highways in Tamil Nadu

900. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the stretches of highways that are undergoing work for extension and construction of median in Tamil Nadu;
  - (b) whether the work on any of these stretches has been abruptly stopped;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor,
  - (d) the details of steps taken by NHAI to ensure the safety of people;
- (e) whether NHAI takes action against the contractors who have failed to put up caution boards; and
  - (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) Thirteen works of widening (4/6 laning) on National Highways are presently under progress in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (b) and (c) There is no abrupt stoppage of works by any of the Concessionaire/ Contractors. However, there are delays in some projects due to land acquisition, shifting of utilities; delay in permission for borrow areas/mining, financial constraints of Concessionaire, court cases etc.
- (d) Necessary safety measures are provided in the construction zone as well as in the improved stretches.
- (e) and (f) Necessary Caution/Sign Boards are provided at all NH stretches as per the site requirement, No incident has been reported where the Concessionaire/ Contractor has failed to provide caution boards.