

**Treating road accident deaths as murder**

1605. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to bring forward a legislation providing for treatment of road accident deaths as murders; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry at present.

**National Green Highways Mission**

1606. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ:

SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the plantation drive on one lakh km. of highways under the National Green Highways Mission would create jobs for 10 lakh youth and prove to be a game changer for the rural economy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of areas of National Highways covered under this programme;
- (c) whether Government has kick started the initial plantation drive on 1,500 km. of National Highways at a cost of about ₹300 crore;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government is planning to extend it to all parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) Sir, creation of jobs for local people is one of the objectives of the Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification and Maintenance) Policy, 2015. Tree plantation and its maintenance along the National Highways is continuous process and are done as per concession agreements/contracts.

**Progress of National Highway projects**

†1607. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of National Highway projects sanctioned during the last three years and the amount proposed to be spent thereon;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the present status of all these projects and the progress thereof; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the pace of construction and repairing of highways is very slow and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) 1229 numbers of projects amounting to ₹ 59499.49 crore have been sanctioned for the development of National Highways (NHs) during the last three years and are at different stages of construction.

- (c) No Sir.

#### **Plan for Agartala-Kolkata bus service**

1608. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any plans to initiate Agartala-Kolkata bus service through Bangladesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) An agreement between India and Bangladesh for starting regular bus service between Agartala and Kolkata *via* Dhaka (Bangladesh) was signed on 6th June 2015. The inaugural bus service was flagged off from Dhaka on the same day and regular bus services on the route were started thereafter.

#### **Road safety guidelines for construction of roads**

1609. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any existing set of guidelines of road safety based on which roads are constructed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken if the road design has been found to be faulty;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) Guidelines related to safety in design, construction and maintenance of roads are covered in various Indian Roads