

(c) and (d) Further, this Ministry is in the process of formulating a policy on Wayside Amenities across the length of National Highways wherein amongst other amenities, toilets & drinking water facilities will be provided. Further, the Ministry is on the process of providing toilets, hoardings and litter bins at all Toll Plazas in the current FY 2016-17 as part of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

#### **Improvement in condition of national highways**

†581. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to formulate comprehensive programme at national level to improve the poor condition of National Highways, especially in backward and rural regions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, as on date; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. Accordingly, the works on NHs are taken up from time to time within the available resources based upon the assessment of their conditions, traffic density and *inter-se* priority.

The Ministry has taken up detailed review of NHs network with a view to develop the road connectivity to Border areas, development of Coastal roads including road connectivity for Non Major ports, improvement in the efficiency of National Corridors, development of Economic Corridors, along with integration with Sagarmala, construction / rehabilitation / widening of major bridges and Railway Over Bridges (ROBs) / Railway Under Bridges (RUBs) on NHs, connectivity Improvement Program for Char-Dham (Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunothri and Gangothri in Uttarakhand) etc., under proposed new programmes. However, these programmes are yet to be formally launched.

#### **Funds raised by NHAI**

582. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has a plan to raise its budgeted target of ₹ 55,000 crore from Employees Provident Fund Organisation and LIC during the current fiscal year;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.