THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Two packages [i.e. (i) Nizamuddin Bridge to UP Border and (ii) Dasna to Hapur] for widening of NH-24, leading to Delhi as a part of Delhi-Meerut Expressway has already been awarded. The third package, namely UP Border to Dasna is in advance stage of award. The completion period of these packages is 2.5 years from the appointed date.

Traffic jams in Delhi

†1388. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that studies have brought forth the fact that buses and other vehicles do not follow the rules pertaining to lane driving in Delhi which causes an increase in accidents and jams;
 - (b) if so, the measures being taken in this regard;
- (c) whether it has also emerged from the studies that jams are also being caused due to illegal encroachment on roads at many places; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) National Transport Development Policy Committee (NTDPC) report, published by NITI Aayog, suggests that the main reason for traffic jams is declining public transport, non-motorized transport and increasing use of private vehicles. Delhi Police is taking strict action to check and control lane violations committed by buses and other vehicles on Delhi roads. The general public is educated through print and electronic media to follow lane discipline. Refresher courses are also conducted for drivers of commercial vehicles by Delhi Traffic Police in which they are briefed and sensitized towards their responsibility which drive and to follow traffic rules and regulations including lane violations.

Cases of animals killed by speeding vehicles

1389. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry records incidents of roadkill, *i.e.*, the number of animals who are killed due to speeding vehicles and other road accidents;

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the current year, and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether the Ministry proposes to maintain such a database?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) The present format for reporting of road accident data by States/UTs to the Transport Research Wing of the Ministry, information relating to animals killed on road accident is not included. There is no proposal to include such information to the database.

Discontinuing diesel vehicles

1390. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on remarks made by the Supreme Court regarding discontinuing the use of old diesel vehicles in NCR;
 - (b) if so, the details of plan proposed therefor, 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) Yes, Sir. The proposal to introduce 'Vehicle Fleet Modernization Programme' to enable the replacement of old vehicles is under consideration. This will ensure phasing out of older polluting vehicles and enable their replacement with fuel efficient and environment friendly vehicles.

A concept note was placed by the Ministry on Vehicle Fleet Modernization Programme on Ministry's official website for information and comments from the stakeholders. The issue is being put up for consideration by a Committee of Secretaries (CoS).

New norms for expansion of State Roads as National Highways

1391. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:
DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

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

- (a) whether Government has revised the norms for construction and conversion of State Roads into National Highways and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the execution of road works would be taken up in such cases where 100 per cent land acquisition has been made;