

(e) Targets for award and construction are generally finalized on year to year basis. However, Out of total 103613 km of National Highways, about 44600 km have been developed till October 2016 under different schemes and rest will be developed in phase manner as per the availability of funds and *inter se* priority.

(f) Some of the difficulties like land acquisition, utility shifting, non availability of soil/aggregates, poor performance of contractors, Environment/Forest/Wildlife clearance, ROB and RUB issue with Railways, public agitation for additional facilities, arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc. is being regularly discussed with highest level in the Government including Hon'ble Prime Minister. To rectify these problems, regular meetings are held with project developers, State Governments and contractors in Head Quarter by Ministry/NHAI with Regional Officers, concessionaires/contractors to streamline the land acquisition and environment clearances, exit for equity investors, premium re-schedulement, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, etc.

(g) Widening and strengthening of National Highways all over the country is the main focus of Ministry in this current financial year.

Road works in Hyderabad-Karnataka Region

1394. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the road works undertaken in the Hyderabad-Karnataka Region, the details of length of the roads constructed, the amount allocated and the time frame for completion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): Sir, at present 8 NH road works amounting to ₹ 2140 cr. covering a length of 438 km are in progress in the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. Out of a length of 438 km, construction has been completed in a length of 144 km. These works are slated for completion between Nov 2016 to Aug 2018.

Protection to Good Samaritans

1395. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the Supreme Court's guidelines to protect Good Samaritans;

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to come up with a Central policy or legislation for the same; and

(c) the details of State legislations regarding the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Save Life Foundation v/s Union of India (WP.No.235 of 2012), *vide* order dated 30th March, 2016 has issued guidelines for protection of Good Samaritans, *i.e* person who is a bystander or a passer-by, who chooses to assist an injured person or a person in distress on the road.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways have introduced Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2016 in the Lok Sabha on 9th August, 2016. The Bill *inter alia* proposes to insert a new section 134A in the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 to protect Good Samaritans who come to the assistance of road accident victims.

Conversion of State Highways into National Highways in Odisha

1396. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to convert State Highways of Odisha into new National Highways during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details; 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) Declaration of State roads as new National Highways (NHs) is made from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. The details of State roads declared as new National Highways (NHs) in the State of Odisha since 2014-15 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Further, the Ministry has also approved "In-Principle" declaration of about 1171 km length of State roads as new NHs in the State of Odisha subject to outcome of Detailed Project Report (DPR). The details of such roads are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).