

Expert panel to fix fading paint menace on NHs

424. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has constituted an expert panel to find a lasting solution to the fading paint menace identified as a major cause for alarmingly high road fatalities;

(b) whether all options on the table are being explored by the Committee;

(c) whether Government is considering alterations in road building contracts to make builders liable for deterioration in road markings, testing paint quality in real world conditions instead of laboratories and tougher tests for driving licences to educate motorists about the meaning of road signs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) National Highways Authority of India has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Director, IAHE (Indian Academy of Highway Engineers) to consider appropriate practices and advise performance parameters for undertaking paintings/markings for Highways.

(b) to (d) The Report of the Committee is awaited.

Four laning of NH-87

†425. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to convert the Rampur-Kathgodam National Highway No. 87 into four lanes;

(b) if so, when was this decision taken and the details of the progress made, so far, in this regard;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for converting it into a four lane highway; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) The four-laning work of Rampur-Kathgodam section of National Highway No. 87 is implemented by

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under National Highways Development Project(NHDP) Phase III. Earlier the project was awarded on 30.11.2013 to Concessionaire M/s ERA-SIBMOST(JV). However, Concessionaire could not submit Performance Security as per Concession Agreement and then Agreement was terminated on 01.04.2014.

Subsequently, the project of four-laning was re-awarded on 31.03.2016 and the Concession Agreement is signed on 02.06.2016. Appointed date could not be declared so far, due to delay in land acquisition for 80% of project stretch. The project is scheduled for completion in 30 months after Appointed date.

Hike in fees for driving licences etc.

426. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN:

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government has recently hiked the various charges/fees for the services of issuing driving licences, etc. and authorized the States to charge an additional fee for conducting driving tests;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this has been done on the basis of the recommendations of the S.K. Sharma Committee; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to provide expeditious services to the applicants for these services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) This Ministry has issued a notification G.S.R 1183 (E) dated 29th December, 2016, amending rule 32 and rule 81 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The fees and charges increased *vide* this notification is based on the Committee constituted on 24.09.2013 by this Ministry under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Transport), Government of Maharashtra for making the recommendations regarding revision of existing rates of fee for various activities/services under Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(d) Ministry has introduced online based citizen centric application VAHAN 4.0 and SARATHI 4.0 to ease out the processes. 85 Road Transport Offices under VAHAN 4.0 and 235 Road transport Offices under SARATHI 4.0 have been brought to the Centralised platform.