

National Highway Grid

2825. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has planned National Highway grid for smooth travel;
- (b) if so, whether the grid network has been identified;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount of investment required to complete the grid; and
- (e) whether it requires redesigning of National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) The total length of National Highways (NHs) in the country is about 1,13,298 km. State roads are declared as new NHs from time to time on the basis of well established principles; the criteria for State roads for declaration as new NHs include roads running through length / breadth of the country, connecting adjacent countries, National Capitals with State Capitals / mutually the State Capitals, major ports, non-major ports, large industrial centers or tourist centers, roads meeting very important strategic requirement in hilly and isolated area, arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby, roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions (other than strategically important ones), achieving a National Highways grid of 100 km., etc.

The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. The works for development and maintenance of NHs are, accordingly, taken up from time to time as per traffic density, availability of funds, *inter-se* priority and based on outcome of the Project Reports, etc., to keep the NHs in traffic worthy conditions.

The Ministry has reduced threshold traffic for 4-laning of NHs from 15,000; 11,000; and 8,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) per day to 10,000; 8,500 and 6,000 PCUs/day for Plain, Rolling, and Mountainous/Steep Terrains respectively.

The Ministry has taken up development of NHs under various phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North East Region (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package of Roads, Special Programme for Development of Roads in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, National Highways Interconnectivity Improvement Project (NHIIP), etc.

The Ministry considers declaration of some State Roads as new NHs from time to time keeping in view the requirements of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

About 57,500 km. length of State Roads have been approved "In-Principle" for their declaration as new NHs subject to outcome of their Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and initiatives have been taken for their DPR preparations.

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.

The outlay provided for Central Sector Roads at Revised Estimate (RE) 2016-17 is as under:—

Sl. No.	Head	₹ in crore
1.	Gross Budgetary Support	41,982.60
2.	Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR)	59,279.00
	TOTAL	101,261.60

Increase in road accidents

2826. KUMARI SELJA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether incidents of road accidents are on the rise due to non adherence of traffic norms by road users including drivers and pedestrians, if so, the details thereof indicating the number of persons killed in road accidents during last two years, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to introduce certain mandatory safety procedures while driving vehicles; and