

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action initiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) It was reported in media that the U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division letter dt. June 21, 2017 which is available on their official website revealed that their investigation found that CDM Smith, through its employees and agents, and those of its wholly owned subsidiary in India (CDM India), paid approximately \$1.18 million in bribes to Government officials in India in exchange for highway construction supervision and design contracts.

(b) National Highway Authority of India has started an enquiry in the matter. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has also taken up the issue with M/o External Affairs as well as Embassy of India in USA to take up the issue with U.S. Department of Justice to provide the information and records gathered by them during their investigation into the aforesaid matter to find out the culpability, if any. The Central Vigilance Commission of India has also constituted a team of three officers to investigate the matter and report to Commission.

Maintenance of old bridges and tunnels on NHs

1699. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA:

SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR:

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

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey of bridges and tunnels on National Highways which are over hundred years old and need immediate major maintenance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government for proper maintenance of these bridges; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Ministry has launched the Indian Bridge Management System (IBMS) for inventory and condition survey of bridges on all National Highways across the country. As on 21.07.2017, 22 bridges and one tunnel have been identified to be more than 100 years old. Based

on the visual condition survey data, 2 bridges out of these 22 bridges have been found to be in distress condition and one tunnel is found to be in structurally good condition.

(c) and (d) All concerned executive agencies (like State PWDs, NHAI, NHIDCL) have already been asked to estimate likely expenditure to undertake repairs, rehabilitation and reconstruction of all such bridges after detailed condition survey.

Landslides due to improper work on Parwanoo-Solan stretch of NH-22

1700. SHRI MATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private company engaged in four-laning the Parwanoo-Solan stretch of National Highways (NH)-22 has failed to raise breast walls of adequate length on the excavated hills and the exposed hills have become vulnerable to landslides;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the onset of the rainy season has led to several such landslides all along the excavated stretch of this NH and the commuters travelling on this road are fearful as the situation could worsen in the days to come; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to address the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) The agency has to provide Breast walls as per the provisions of Contract Agreement. In landslide prone areas, adequate remedial measures are to be provided as per Hill Road Manual. The stretch of Parwanoo-Solan National Highway is passing through the Shivalik range of Himalaya region which is vulnerable for landslides. The chances of land slide in rainy season increases many fold during cutting of hills for construction. Adequate numbers of informatory and Warning Sign Boards for the commuters have been installed to avoid any mishappening. Moreover, Crane to lift damaged vehicles and patrolling vehicles along with other safety measures have also been provided at site.

Delay in NHs works

1701. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

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

(a) whether Government has reviewed the status of the ongoing works of National Highways in the country;