

Utilisation of funds for road projects in Punjab

1703. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government for the utilisation of ₹ 12,990 crore sanctioned for & construction of 1,871 km. roads in Punjab;

(b) the measures taken by Government for the utilisation of ₹ 1,420 crore sanctioned for the construction of the roads measuring 150 km. in district Amritsar; and

(c) the details of National Highways projects sanctioned in Punjab for the year 2017-18?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) in the country. Projects for development of various NHs worth ₹18,395 crore with aggregate length of 1103 kms. in Punjab which includes ₹1,363 crore with aggregate length of 65 kms. in District Amritsar are in various stages of progress. For utilization of these funds, monitoring of progress of these NH projects is done by this Ministry through periodic reviews along with its implementing agencies of Public Works Department (PWD), Government of Punjab and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

(c) So far, no project has been sanctioned for Punjab during the year 2017-18.

Proposal for conversion of Bengaluru-Mysuru highway as NH

1704. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had approved the Karnataka Government's ₹3,000 crore proposal to convert Bengaluru-Mysuru highway into a six-lane National Highway;

(b) whether the funds have been provided adequately for acquisition, construction and shifting utilities and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Minister is aware of the fact that traffic on this highway is moving bumper-to-bumper due to bad roads;

(d) if so, by when the Minister proposes to complete the project to do away with the menace of traffic congestion on this highway; and

- (e) what is the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) The proposal has been cleared by PPPAC Committee on 31.5.2017 and the draft CCEA note is submitted to Ministry of Finance for approval. The estimated capital cost of the project is ₹ 6420.80 crore. An amount of ₹ 16.74 crore has been sanctioned for carrying out maintenance work for improvement of road. Bids have been invited for procurement of executing agency. Construction work will take about 30 months to complete from the appointed date after completion of tendering process and finalization of agency.

APP-based monitoring of construction of PMGSY roads

1705. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has proposed any new App-based monitoring mechanism regarding the construction of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the funding pattern and organisational set up for the aforesaid mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (d) As per the programme guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), ensuring effective implementation and maintaining the quality of the road works is the responsibility of the State Governments. In order to bring the execution of PMGSY works to the desired quality standard, a three tier quality assurance mechanism has been institutionalized by the Ministry of Rural Development. Under the first tier, the Programme Implementation Units (PIUs) are required to ensure process control through mandatory tests on material and workmanship at field laboratory established for this purpose. A mobile application is used to upload georeferenced, date and time stamped photos of such field labs on the PMGSY programme MIS *i.e.* OMMAS. The second tier of quality assurance is a structured independent quality monitoring at the State level through State Quality Monitors (SQMs) to ensure that each and every work is inspected at initial stage, middle stage