

(c) if so, whether Government propose to connect Patna with Bodhgaya in the South and Muzaffarpur in the North through four lane Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. All the State capitals which have not been connected with National Highways Development Project (NHDP) are proposed to be connected with NHDP by a four lane road essentially on Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis under Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Priyोजना (PMBJP).

(b) East-West Corridor being constructed under NHDP passes through Muzaffarpur. The Golden Quadrilateral does not pass through Bodhgaya, however, National Highway No. 2 being developed under Golden Quadrilateral passes through Dobhi in Bihar, which is about 20 km. away from Bodhgaya. Dobhi is connected with Bodhgaya by a two-lane National Highway.

(c) There is a proposal to connect Muzaffarpur with Patna by a four lane highway on BOT basis under PMBJP. There is however no proposal to connect Patna with Bodhgaya by four lane road.

#### **Damage of roads by flood in Bihar**

†2508. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Highways from Pingore to Beldar in district Khagaria (8 kms.), Badia to Nakarpala, Karache to Badia to Nakarpala, Karache to Badia Tatbandh, Saharsa to Mansi have been damaged due to flood; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to repair these Highways and by when the work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways. Only, the road from Saharsa to Mansi *via* Mahesh Kunt is National Highway, which has been damaged due to overtopping of floodwater. Pingore to Beldar, Badia to Nakarpala and Karache to Badia Tatbandh roads are not part of National Highway network.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[26 August. 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) Temporary restoration work in Mahesh Kunt-Mansi section of NH-31 has already been taken up by the Road Construction Department, Bihar. The restoration work in Saharsa-Maheshkunt section of NH-107 would be possible after floodwater recedes.

#### **Upgradation of Highways in Rajasthan**

‡2509. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has sent letters to him on 19th March, 2004 and 16th April, 2004 to declare parts of sixteen Highways as Highways;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard and whether any time limit has been set in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Recently, in February 2004, the Ministry has declared 7457 kms. of State Roads including 988 kms. in Rajasthan as National Highways. Due to paucity of funds, the Central Government is now not in a position to declare State Roads as National Highways.

#### **National Highways passing through Rajasthan**

‡2510. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals regarding strengthening and widening of National Highways passing through the State of Rajasthan have been forwarded by the State Government of Rajasthan to Government of India;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme in this regard;

(c) if so, the outline and time limit thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.