

- (b) if so, whether it tantamounts to legalising overloading;
- (c) whether any study was conducted to assess the adverse effects on road safety and pollution before taking this decision; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The permissible safe axle weights of goods vehicles were last notified about 35 years back. Over the years, significant improvements have taken place in tyre technology, vehicle design, pavement design etc. The global axle weight norms are higher as compared to the existing Indian norms. The issue of revision of axle weight was also raised in the Meeting of the Group of Transport Ministers of the States, who recommended to increase the permissible axle weight of transport vehicles.

The issue has been examined in the Ministry and the revised maximum safe permissible axle weight for transport vehicles have been notified by the Ministry *vide* S.O. 3467(E) dated 16th July, 2018.

#### **Expansion/repairing work of NHs in Bihar**

†2171. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of agencies which have been assigned the responsibility of repairing National Highways in Bihar by Government;
- (b) the names of the National Highways which have been converted to four lane in Bihar by Government; and
- (c) the time by which the target has been fixed to complete this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) The responsibility of repairing National Highways in Bihar has been assigned to National Highways Authority of India and State PWD/RCD, Government of Bihar.

(b) and (c) The names of National Highway stretches that have been converted into 4-lane in the State of Bihar along with completion date are given in the Statement.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

***Statement***

*Names of National Highway stretches that have been converted into 4-lane in the State of Bihar along with completion date*

Sl. No.	Name of the National Highway stretch	Completion Date
1.	Kosi Bridge	February, 2012
2.	Kosi Western Bund-Jhanjharpur	October, 2011
3.	Jhanjharpur-Darbhanga	August, 2012
4.	Darbhanga-Muzzafarpur (Package-I)	March, 2011
5.	Darbhanga-Muzzafarpur (Package-II)	January, 2011
6.	Gopalganj-Muzzafarpur (Package-I)	July, 2011
7.	Gopalganj -Muzzafarpur (Package-II)	February, 2012
8.	4 Laning of Km 402 to Km 440 of NH-28 (For balance 0.500 Km bids invited.)	January, 2016 (Termination date of old Contract).
9.	Purnea-Gayakota (Package-I)	April, 2008
10.	Purnea-Gayakota (Package-II)	April, 2011
11.	Purnea-Araria	April, 2010
12.	Araria-Forbesganj	May, 2010
13.	Forbesganj-Simrahi	June, 2016
14.	Simrahi -Kosi	April, 2012
15.	Varanasi-Mohania	December, 2010
16.	Mohania-Sasaram	June, 2006
17.	Sasaram-dehri-on-Sone	July, 2008
18.	Dehri-On-Aurangabad	November, 2005
19.	Aurangabad - Barachatti	December, 2010
20.	Barachatti-Gorhar	March, 2008