

and any transport vehicles for which no permit is required under the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.

Construction of roads for connectivity

266. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of roads identified for connectivity in the 34 affected districts in the country;
- (b) length of road awarded by the Ministry so far and how many kms. of road are constructed;
- (c) the expected date of completion of the total length of roads as identified for connectivity, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the funds allocated by the Ministry for the development of roads in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas since the initiation of the scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The total length of roads sanctioned under Road Requirement Plan for development of roads in Left Wing Extremism affected areas in 34 districts is 5422 km. The total length awarded and constructed so far is 5419 km. and 4486 km. respectively.

- (c) The expected date of completion of the total length of road is March, 2020.
- (d) The total expenditure incurred since the inception under the scheme upto 31.03.2017 is ₹ 6210 crore. During the current Financial Year 2017-18, an allocation of ₹ 700 crore is made.

Empowering State Governments for road projects

267. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has empowered the States to apprise it of projects worth upto ₹100 crore and invite tenders;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that earlier all such projects used to come under the Central Government, resulting in delays; and