(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Total five works over a length of 340 km. amounting to ₹ 1426.49 cr. has been sanctioned on the New National Highways.

Data regarding national highways construction

1705. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGH-WAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has constructed a record number of Highways since 2014;
 - (b) data of road constructed prior to 2014; and
- (c) whether all the National Highways constructed prior to 2014 and afterwards have the same quality and passengers facilities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Ministry has constructed National Highways of 39,386 km. during 2014 to 2019 and 24,589 km. have been constructed during 2009 to 2014.

(c) National Highways are constructed and maintained as per the prescribed specifications and standards of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Indian Road Congress (IRC). 24x7 dedicated helpline no 1033 and mobile application "SUKHAD YATRA‰ facilities have been provided to assist road users in case of emergency and non-emergency. FASTag, toilet and dustbins, etc. facilities have been provided at various toll plazas on National Highways. Further Highway Nest (Minis) are also provided to facilitate passengers.

Construction of new NHs in Rajasthan

†1706. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given approval to the new projects for the construction of new National Highways in the State of Rajasthan;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - the details of the proposed projects to be started in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Total 19 projects costing ₹ 14,411 crore have been approved for construction of new National Highways in the State of Rajasthan. Out of these, 12

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[RAJYA SABHA]

Implementation of TOT model

1707. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to offer smaller bundles of road projects under the Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) model as a part of its asset monetisation plan in a bid to attract smaller investors as well as to generate more self-employment avenues in the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof and by when it will commence?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Sir, funds generated from asset monetization are utilized for development/ construction of highways in the Country which result into employment generation. NHAI has invited first Bundle of TOT with a length of 680 km and received bids on 22.02.2018 with quoted bid concession fee of ₹ 9681.5 crore. Bid for TOT Bundle-3 has been invited on 13.06.2019 with due date of 11.09.2019 and Initial Estimated Concession Value (IECV) of ₹ 4995.48 crore.

Traffic jams on toll plazas

 \dagger 1708. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of long traffic jams on toll plazas situated on National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details of the efforts made by Government to get rid of these traffic jams on toll plazas; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to free private cars from toll tax, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) In order to facilitate smooth movement of traffic and reduce congestion on fee plazas, the Government has rolled out a cashless payment mechanism *i.e.* FASTag by implementation of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) based Electronic Fee Collection (EFC) system on National Highways.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.