

**Proposals for construction of  
roads/highways in Punjab**

1714. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned any projects for construction of roads/highways in Punjab particularly in Amritsar since May, 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) details of the proposed schemes to be introduced in Punjab, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) The Ministry, since May, 2014 has sanctioned 132 number of National Highway works costing ₹ 20144.20 Crore in Punjab which includes 9 number of National Highway works costing ₹ 1399.56 Crore in Amritsar district.

(c) The sanction of National Highway projects depend upon the traffic volume, availability of right of way (RoW), *inter-se* priority, availability of funds etc.

**Scarcity of funds for road projects**

1715. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several road projects throughout the country hit a road block due to scarcity of funds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and details of pending projects, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has any specific plan to complete these road projects in a fixed time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. The works on NHs are, accordingly, taken up depending upon *inter-se* priority, traffic density and availability of funds.

No NH projects are stuck up due to scarcity of resources/fund available with the Government.

**Amritsar-Delhi Expressway**

1716. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any progress on Amritsar-Delhi-Katra Expressway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the current status of the project; and
- (d) by when the project is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) The consultant for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR)/ Feasibility Study in respect of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway has been appointed and the DPR work along with consultations with State Government to finalize the alignment has been initiated. The project features such as construction cost, length, completion period etc. are finalized based on the outcome of DPR and the civil work on project stretch is started after appraisal/approval by the Competent Authority as per extant delegation of powers.

#### **Proposal to extend National Waterway-3**

1717. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal to extend the National Waterway-3 (NW-3) from Kollam to Kovalam and Kozhikode to Bekal in Kerala, is under consideration;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) if so, whether any specific steps has been taken to allocate funds for the proposal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Presently, no proposal to extend the National Waterway-3 (NW-3) from Kollam to Kovalam and Kozhikode to Bekal in Kerala is under consideration of the Government. It has been decided to first undertake the development in the existing stretch of NW-3 and not to extend it further.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of the reply to (a) and (b) above.

#### **Indian shipping industries**

1718. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry had permitted foreign ships to carry cargo, which was being carried only by Indian ships earlier;
- (b) loss of tax revenue to Government and loss of income for Indian companies and citizens;