

- (b) the reason for the delay in clearing the traffic congestion?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Kuthiran lies on Vadakkencherry-Thrissur stretch of NH-47 in the State of Kerala. The work of 6-laning of this stretch (along with 3-lane twin tube tunnel at Kuthiran with an approximate length of 960 m) has been awarded on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis at a grant of about ₹ 244 crores. The civil work in the stretch from Vadakkencherry to Thrissur was started in September, 2012. However, the tunnel work was started in May, 2016. At present, 83% physical progress has been achieved in the project. As far as Kuthiran tunnel is concerned, the same has been constructed except for minor works in tunnel tube on one side and approaches due to delay in Land Acquisition and Forest and Wild life Clearance.

There were heavy rains during the months of September/October, 2019 and in current month also thus delaying the repair work in the stretch. Meanwhile temporary works such as filling up of potholes etc. were carried out. The work for major maintenance/repairs in the said stretch has been awarded and the work has commenced in first week of November, 2019.

Fake drivers' licences

124. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether steps are being taken to keep a check on invalid or fake licences in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise data pertaining to the number of licences issued by Road Transport Offices in India;
- (c) if so, the State-wise data of any irregularities or fake licences issued; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to introduce a computerised mechanism for issuing licences?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways does not maintain centralised data regarding fake or duplicate driving licences. However, as per an analysis

done in January, 2015 on National Register for driving licences by National Informatics Centre (NIC), it was found that there is a possibility of duplicate licences. As on 5th January, 2015, out of total 6,70,16,851 driving licences records available, 16,72,138 records were found to be possible duplicates spread over 7,99,923 clusters. The percentage of probable duplicates stands at 2.5 percent as per this exercise. This information has been shared with respective States for further action.

National database on driving Licenses and vehicle registration has already been created. National Informatics Centre (NIC) who have been entrusted with the design, development, computerization roll-out and maintenance of the VAHAN and SARATHI project across all the States and Union Territory Administrations has achieved almost 100% success in terms of deployment of core schema/product for Vehicle Registration (VAHAN) and for driving licenses (SARATHI) across the country. Subsequently to consolidate the database, State Register (SR) for all the states and National Register (NR) were established. Almost all the sites in 36 States/Union Territory Administrations are connected. More than 20 crore vehicle records and 10 crore driving license records are available in National Register repository. State Transport Departments and enforcement agencies have been provided access to data on National Register to facilitate instant verification of all driving licenses (DLs)/Registration Certificate (RCs) and the digitalized data is also made accessible through mobile by sending SMS from their registered number.

The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 will help to carry reforms in the driving licence testing process and eliminating the duplicate licences.

Status of four laning of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

125. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of National Highways (NHs) projects in Uttar Pradesh for which announcement had been made for four laning since 2015 till date, year-wise;
- (b) the details of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh for which announcement had been made for upgradation to four lanes during last three years, NH-wise; and
- (c) the details of NHs out of above on which survey has been completed and work of four laning has started as on date, NH-wise?