

Plantation of trees along the NHs

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

- (a) whether Government has fixed any programme to plant 125 crore trees along with National Highways during the next five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating amount likely to be spent thereon;
- (c) whether Government is considering to appoint any agency for planting trees and its maintenance alongwith geo tagging; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) The plantation along National Highways is done through executing agencies for civil works as per relevant provisions of Manual published by Indian Roads Congress (IRC). Green Highways Policy, 2015 and other guidelines of Government of India. In the projects, in which provision for the same has not been stipulated, the plantation is carried out as per guidelines for avenue and median plantation. The geo-tagging is an integral part of the plantation and maintenance project.

Construction of Bundelkhand Expressway

†130. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a delay in the construction of Bundelkhand Expressway, which covers total distance of 294 kilometers from Auriya-Etawah- Mahirpur-Banda to Chitrakoot;
- (b) if so, the time-frame fixed for inception as well as completion of the above construction work; and
- (c) whether it is apprehended that this work would not be completed within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) Bundelkhand Expressway is a project of State Government of Uttar Pradesh and is being implemented by Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA). Bundelkhand Expressway has been divided into six packages and Contractor for all the six packages have been selected by UPEIDA for implementation on Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode. There is no

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.