

**Approval for expressway and NH-544F**

943. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently approved Anantapur-Amaravati Greenfield Expressway and also issued approval for NH No. 544-F;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of packages in which the project is going to be taken up and packages where Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared so far?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Grand Challenge Mechanism, which is a component of Bharatmala Pariyojana, there is a provision for taking up such road projects on the request of the States where the State Governments share at least 50% of land acquisition cost. Meetings with officers of Government of Andhra Pradesh have been held regarding the development of an Access controlled Green Field Expressway connecting the new capital city of Amaravati to Anantapur. The alignment of the aforesaid road stretch has been finalized with a length of approximately 384 km. Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to bear 50% of the cost of the land to be acquired and to obtain requisite statutory clearances (*i.e.* environment, forest, wildlife etc.) expeditiously. Projects are taken up after completion of pre-construction activities, statutory clearances, availability of funds and *inter-se* priority.

- (c) Detail Project Report (DPR) of this entire expressway has been taken up in twelve packages. It is too early to indicate the number of packages on which project will be taken up.

**Central stake in State Transport Corporations**

944. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is having a stake in State Road Transport Corporations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether States can independently take a decision to wind-up or merge (with the Government) the State Transport Corporations established under Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950 without the consent of Central Government; and

(d) whether Central Government bears the losses of State Transport Corporations?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has made capital contribution in some of the State Road Transport Corporations. Capital Contribution in some of the SRTCs have been converted into equity capital.

(c) Under the Section 39 of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950, liquidation of a Corporation can be made by the order of the concerned State Government with prior approval of the Central Government.

(d) No, Sir.

#### **Development of multi-modal ports**

945. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to develop multi-modal ports in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has identified any places in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana for developing such multi-modal ports, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of funds earmarked and the quantum of funds released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Construction of sea ports under Major Ports Act, 1963 at various locations is undertaken by the Government on the basis of feasibility studies and Detailed Project Reports. Invariably connectivity by rail and road is an important criteria for setting up of a new port.

(b) The project development of port at Duggirajupatnam in Andhra Pradesh is