

corridors, 8,000 km. of Inter Corridors, 7,500 km. of Feeder Routes, 5,300 km. border and International connectivity roads, 4,100 km Coastal and Port connectivity roads, 1,900 km. expressways, national corridor efficiency improvement by development of ring roads around 28 cities, decongestion of about 125 choke points and 66 congestion points, development of 35 nos. of multimodal logistics parks.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the proposal for investment approval for Phase-I of "Bharatmala Pariyojana" during its meeting held on 24.10.2017. "Bharatmala Pariyojana" Phase-I includes development of about 9,000 km. length of economic corridors, about 6,000 km. length of inter-corridor and feeder roads, about 5,000 km. length of national corridors efficiency improvements *inter alia* entailing development of ring roads/bypasses, etc., for decongestion of choke points/ congestions points, about 2,000 km. length of border and international connectivity roads, about 2,000 km. length of coastal and port connectivity roads, about 800 km. length of expressways and balance length of about 10,000 km. of roads under NHDP.

#### **National highway projects in Kerala**

1249. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a few National Highway projects are lying incomplete in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay; and
- (c) the time by which the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) Development and Maintenance of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process which are taken up as per traffic requirement, availability of funds and based on *inter se* priority. Eight National Highway Projects are delayed for various reasons such as unprecedented rains in Kerala, delays in forest clearance, felling of trees, shifting of utilities, non-availability of borrow earth etc. All efforts are being made for early completion of these works.

#### **Status of NHs in the North-East**

1250. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that most of the National Highways in the North-East are in deplorable condition;

(b) whether it is a fact that NH-44 is damaged at various places and the work of four laning is not in progress; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Development and Maintenance of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process. The works are accordingly taken up on NHs from time to time as per *inter se* priority, traffic density, and availability of fund to keep road in traffic worthy conditions.

(b) and (c) To keep NH-44 in traffic worthy conditions an amount of ₹ 35.49 crore has been allocated during 2019-20 in Tripura. Further work for widening and strengthening of 124 km. for an amount of ₹ 565.57 crore has been approved, out of which work in 25 km. has been taken up for an amount of ₹ 171.90 crore.

#### **Noise pollution from vehicle horns**

1251. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that noise pollution levels on roads are much higher than the ambient air quality standards prescribed by the Noise Pollution Rules, 2000;

(b) the reason that the noise range for vehicular horns exceeds the standards set and whether there are plans to alter it;

(c) the number of people booked for having horns that exceed the upper limit of 112 decibels in the last five years;

(d) whether there have been any Governmental efforts to work with horn manufacturers to curb the production of horns that violate standards; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) CPCB in association with State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution