

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) This Ministry is responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways. Meerut-Kotdwar is a State Highway in Uttar Pradesh and stretch from Kotdwar to Srinagar (*via* Pauri) is served by two different State Highways in Uttaranchal. As such, the Meerut-Kotdwar-Pauri-Srinagar roads are the responsibility of the respective State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal. From Srinagar to Badrinath, the road is a National Highway No. 58. Improvements of NH-58 in a length 82.645 km. is in progress as per schedule by Border Road Organisation.

Amendment in the Carriers Act, 1865

*167. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are considering to bring about an amendment to the Carriers Act, 1865 as proposed by Bombay Goods Transport Association;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures proposed to be taken to stop the on-going harassment of the transporters?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) Replacement of the Carriers Act, 1865 by a new legislation is under consideration of the Government. Suggestions from a number of sources including the Bombay Goods Transport Association have been received.

(d) Enforcement of provisions of Motor Vehicle related regulations falls under the purview of Government of respective States/U.Ts.

Toll Tax on Four-lane roads

†*168. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of four lane roads in the country, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(b) whether Government are considering to charge toll tax on the four lane roads in the country;

(c) if so, the States where four lane roads are already being used for charging toll tax; and

(d) whether Government are considering to contract any private company for charging toll tax on four lane roads?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN.(RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The State-wise details of four-lane sections of National Highways in the country are given in Statement-I. *{See below}*.

(b) As per the Section 7 of the National Highways Act, 1956 as amended as per National Highways (Amendment) Act, 1992, the Central Government may levy fee for use of sections of National Highways.

(c) The State-wise details of four-lane sections of National Highways where users' fees are being charged are given in Statement-II. (See below)

(d) National Highways Rules (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge-Public Funded Projects) G.S.R. 490 (E) dated 27.8.1997 allow for collection of users' fee by the executing agency concerned departmently or through private agency.

Statement-I

State-wise details of completed four lane sections of National Highways in the Country

Sl. No.	State	Total Length of 4-lane roads (Km.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	331
2.	Bihar	15
3.	Chandigarh	13
4.	Chhattisgarh	24
5.	Delhi	66
6.	Gujarat	621

Sl. No.	State	Total Length of 4- lane roads (Km.)
7.	Haryana	393
8.	Jharkhand	43
9.	Karnataka	105
10.	Kerala	37
11.	Madhya Pradesh	78
12.	Maharashtra	335
13.	Manipur	10
14.	Orissa	90
15.	Punjab	164
16.	Rajasthan	294
17.	Tamil Nadu	96
18.	Uttar Pradesh	314
19.	West Bengal	106
TOTAL:		3134

Statement-II

Names of the States where four lane National Highways are already being used for charging users' fee

Sl. No.	State	NH No	Section	Length (Km)
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	5	Ankapalli-Visakhapatnam	40.71
		5	Chilikaluripet-Vijayawada	83.00
		5	Elluru bypass	17.37
2	GUJARAT	8	Vadodara-Bharuch-Surat	148.00
		8A	Samakhayali-Gandhidharn	56.16
		8A	Bamanbore to Bagodara	121.00
3	HARYANA	1	Panipat-Punjab Border	116.00
		2	Badarpur-Uttar Pradesh Border	75.03
		8	Gurgaon-Rajasthan Border	6518

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SI.No.	State	NH No.	Section	Length (Km)
4	JHARKHAND	2	Barwa adda-West Bengal Border	42.65
5	MAHARASHTRA	3 & 4	Thane-Bhiwandi Khambatki Ghat Tunnel and Road	22.80 8.00
		8	Manor-Dahisar	63.00
6	ORISSA	5	Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur	27.80
7	PUNJAB	1	Haryana Border-Khanna-Jalandhar	159.84
8	RAJASTHAN	8	Haryana Border-Kotputli-Chandwazi-Jaipurbypass	161.52
9	UTTAR PRADESH	2	Haryana Border-Kosi-Agra	105.17
		24	Ghaziabad-Hapur & Hapur bypass	32.25
10	WEST BENGAL	2	Jharkhand Border-Panagarh	73.84
TOTAL:				1419.31

Life insurance cover for artisans working for KVIC

*169. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of artisans working for the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC); and

(b) the action proposed to provide a comprehensive group life insurance cover to them as a social security measure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) It is estimated that 3.13 lakh full time Khadi artisans were working in the Khadi Section under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during 2002-03.

(b) The Government proposes to launch the Janashree Bima Yojana, a Group Insurance Scheme on 15.08.2003 for Khadi artisans as a social security measure. The scheme provides risk cover in case of natural