

Roads in Uttar Pradesh

1027. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes and programmes which have been formulated during the Tenth Five Year Plan for development and expansion of roads in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that various Roads/National Highways of U.P. are in deteriorating conditions; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) During Tenth Five Year Plan, various schemes like widening to two/four lanes, strengthening, improvement of riding quality, construction of major/minor bridges, bypasses and road safety works are proposed to be taken up on National Highways other than those included in National Highways Development Project (NHDP) in the State of Uttar Pradesh. During the current year so far (upto October, 2002) projects amounting to Rs. 77 crores have been sanctioned for strengthening (25 Kms.), improvement of riding quality (270 Kms.) and some miscellaneous works like drains and culverts. Besides, under NHDP four laning of 1626 Kms. of National Highways is envisaged by December, 2007, out of which 129 Kms. were completed upto March, 2002.

(b) and (c) Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh are generally being maintained in traffic worthy condition subject to availability of funds.

National Highway Development Project

1028. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway No. 31 under the National Highway Development Project (NHDP), the East-West Corridors (Phase-II) whose targeted year of completion is 2007 (advanced from 2009) is witnessing worstever condition due to frequent flood havoc;

(b) whether there is any immediate policy to rescue the State as well as the North-Eastern Region from this suffering which caused harm to the economic development aspect also; and

(c) the special policy under NHDP to counter permanently the frequent devastating effects of flood in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) The stretch of National Highway No. 31 from Islampur to Chalsa in West Bengal and from Bijni to Guwahati in Assam suffered damages due to flood this year. Urgent repair works to keep these sections of National Highways in traffic-worthy conditions and improvement in riding surface, are being taken up through respective State Public Works Departments.

(b) Ministry has constituted committees at State levels to identify and study flood-prone sections of National Highways in various States including the States in North-East Region and to suggest permanent remedial measures. The reports of these State level Committees will be reviewed by a National level Committee constituted by the Ministry. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, suitable engineering measures will be considered.

(c) For projects under National Highway Development Project (NHDP), engineering measures for permanent solution for flood-prone stretches of National Highways are adopted during detailed project preparation stage.

Maintenance of National Highways in Gujarat

1029. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans and advances received from the World Bank/ Asian Development Bank and other international financial institutions for construction and maintenance/repair of National Highways/Bridges in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) whether the loan amount was spent for those projects;

(c) if not, whether such loans and advances have been spent for some other purpose;