

1	2	3
2.	Four laning including strengthening of existing 2 lane pavement from Barwa Adda (Km. 398.75) to Barakar (Km. 441.94) section of NH-2 in Bihar.	150.67
3.	Strengthening of Vijayawada (Km. 3.4) to Eluru (Km. 75.0) section including 4-laning from Km. 3.4 to Km. 13.0 and construction of a bypass for Eluru Town, on NH 5 in Andhra Pradesh.	171.60
Total		508.52

All survey works and detailed designs of the project in Bihar have been completed and construction has already been started.

#### **New Technology for Improving National Highways**

3815. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD):

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to use new technology for improving the National Highways in our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign experts have been invited to assist in providing new technology; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) New technologies are being adopted/proposed in the construction and maintenance of highways. Some of the new technologies are as under:

- (i) Introduction of rubber/polymer modified bitumen for better functioning of bituminous construction.
- (ii) Batch type Hot Mix Plants of more than 120 Ton per hour capacity for production of bituminous materials.
- (iii) Pavement finisher fitted with electronic sensing devices.
- (iv) Slip form paver for concrete road.
- (v) Falling Weight Deflectometer.
- (vi) Automated traffic counter-cum-classifiers.
- (vii) Mobile Bridge Inspection Units.
- (viii) Nuclear Density Meters.

(ix) Incremental launching method for construction of bridges.

(x) Jack-down method of well sinking.

(xi) Steel-free Deck slab design.

(xii) Bridge Maintenance System.

(c) and (d) Foreign experts have been associated from time to time to assist in transfer of technology specially in respect of commissioning imported equipments and training of Indian Engineers/technicians, updating of existing standards and specification of highway construction, etc. Decisions concerning the requirement and tenure of association of foreign experts are taken on case to case basis.

#### **Deforestation in Kerala**

3816. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUIJ BISEN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the ever-green forests of Kerala are facing grave threat from the axes of timber mafia from Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to prevent further denudation of forests in Kerala; and

(c) the State-wise details of deforestation in square kms. done in the entire country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Branches of Indian Institute of Mass Communication**

3817. SHRI D.S. AHIRE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The number of branches of Indian Institute of Mass Communication in the country; location-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up a branch of Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) There are four (4) branches of Indian Institute of Mass Communication in the country. These are located at Dhenkanal (Orissa), Kottayam (Kerala), Jhabua (Madhya Pradesh) and Dimapur (Nagaland).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.