

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3174
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014
ROADS CONNECTING RELIGIOUS AND TOURIST PLACES
Mishra Shri Bhairon Prasad

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government provides financial assistance for the construction of important roads connecting religious and tourist places across the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to develop road connectivity to identified tourism destinations/circuits, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the identified segments of National Highways (NHs) connectivity to the tourist destinations/circuits have been included in various programmes for development of NHs, if so, the details thereof with special reference to Bundelkhand;
- (d) whether the State Governments were requested to develop these identified State roads from Central Road Fund (CRF)/State funds; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

- (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) network in the country and development and maintenance of roads other than NHs lies with the State Governments. As of now, this Ministry has not formulated any specific action plan for road connectivity to all the religious/tourist places in the country. However, this Ministry provides financial assistance to the State Governments for development of State Roads projects under Inter State Connectivity (ISC) schemes facilitating inter-State connectivity between States and under Economic Importance (EI) schemes for roads either directly connecting to or leading to an important market centre, economic zone, industrial, agricultural region, tourist centre, religious centre and the like where significant economic activity is being undertaken. Jhansi-Bamitha section of NH-75 passing through Bundelkhand region is included under National Highway Development Project (NHDP).
- (d) and (e) In October, 2011 an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee (IMCC) was constituted to facilitate the resolution of inter-ministerial issues involved in the development of tourism in the country, as well as issues raised by Industry Associations in the Tourism Sector. In pursuance with the decisions taken during the meeting of IMCC the State Governments of Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan were requested to explore the possibility of developing identified State roads connecting identified religious/tourist places in the State out of the State Plan.