

(JHALAWAR): Rajasthan is the second largest State in the country having an area of 3,34,239 sq. kms whereas the total length of National Highways in that State is only 2,891 kms. When the national average of National Highways is 9.43, the average length of National Highways in the State of Rajasthan is 1,000 sq. kms. In view of the geographical location of Rajasthan, it is very necessary to declare some important State roads as National Highways.

The Government of Rajasthan has submitted a proposal before the Government to declare some State roads passing through Rajasthan as National Highways. Some of these important roads, include Bikaner-Merta-Ajmer-Bhilwara-Chittorgarh-Ratlam-Indore connecting National Highways Nos. 15 and 3, the length of which is 507 kms, which may be declared as National Highways. Similarly the road between Gurgaon and Shivpuri via Alwar, Sariska, Dausa and Sawai Madhopur, the road between Koshi and Dholpur via Kama, Deog, Bharatpur, Roopwas and Sapau may be considered for inclusion as National Highways during the Eighth Plan period.

The above State roads are very important. The declaration of these roads as National Highways will go a long way in development of the State. As these are some of the long pending demands of the State, I urge the Central Government to consider these demands without any further delay.

(vi) Need for Requisite Financial and other Assistance to Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society of Orissa

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY

(PURI): Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society of Orissa is one of the ten Regional Cancer Centres approved by the Government of India. The institution is at present having hundred and 30 bedded hospital exclusively meant for cancer patients with well trained faculty consisting of specialists from different oncological disciplines. There are facilities for higher education in related disciplines. The Society is also actively engaged in the preventive aspects with regular imparting of cancer education and organisation of detection camps.

This Centre caters to the need of about 35 million people covering the whole of Orissa, as well as neighbouring areas of adjoining States viz West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Hence, this institution needs further improvement *vis-a-vis* the infrastructural facilities for better treatment and research. Besides there is also an upward trend in the incidence of cancer in Orissa.

The meagre amount received as grant in aid from the State Government of Orissa is hardly sufficient to meet the requisite expenses. The State Government have agreed to allocate more thirty acres of land for its improvement. A request has also been made by the State Government to the Union Government, for provision of one time grant of rupees sixty crore for its overall development.

I urge upon the Government of India for allocation of the required fund and provision of the necessary assistance for the development of the institution.