

Reply is as follows:

The National Highway NH 4A (no. 748) originates at Belgaum (km 0/00) & terminates at Panaji (km 153/00). The jurisdiction of Goa State starts at km 84/00 i.e Anmod. Hence total stretch of NH 4A in the jurisdiction of Goa State is 69 kms, out of which 17 kms is already upgraded to four lanes i.e Ponda bypass including Khandepar bridge having 7km length and Ribander bypass having a length of 10 kms.

The traffic intensity along these stretch has crossed 30000 pcu,whereby MoRTH New Delhi has approved the alignment wide no. RW/NH/37015/14/2016/NHDP- IV dated 26/02/2016 for upgradation of the remaining stretch, wherein the approved allignment in Bhoma and Corlim Village is along the existing NH. Two alignments were studied on the left hand side of the existing NH wherein 3 residencial houses were affected and the alignment on the right hand side,which is reflected in the regional plan is also studied wherein 4 residencial houses are affected.The land acquisition for this stretch was approved by ministry job no. NH-4A-GOA-2014-15-165 dated 31/03/2015 , job no. NH-4A-GOA-2014-15-164 dated 31/03/2015.The approved alignment, sanctioned land acquisition and the proposal of expansion which is on stilt in Bhoma and Corlim Village was explained to the then elected representatives both the constituencies i.e Cumbarjua as well as Priol. Accordingly land acquisition proceedings were initiated. Due hearing were given by CALA individually and grievances were addressed under Section 3C. Subsequently as per the request of the Village Panchayat Bhoma presentation was given in the specially convened Gram Sabha wherein top officers of the administration and Public Works Department were present.Section 3D is notified and land acquisition officer CALA PWD Cell Panaji has issued notice under Section 3(G)(3) of the National Highway Act 1956.

The land acquisition proposed and initiated is on the right hand side from the left edge of the existing Highway in Bhoma Village wherein no temples are affected. There are a total 22 structures affected out of which only 4 are residencial houses and remaining are temporary kiosks whereas in Corlim Village

there are 39 structures affected out of which 4 are old residential houses and remaining are temporary kiosks.

Government intends to rehabilitate the affected kiosks in Bhoma Village in front of the temple in the vicinity of the temple premises, right extreme edge of the acquisition and plots for the rehabilitation of the affected 4 houses are proposed near the Panchayat building and for rehabilitation of 4 houses in Corlim Village, there is a provision of separate plots at Old Goa. Similarly the Government is exploring various options to rehabilitate the affected kiosks of Corlim village.

The proposed Highway in Bhoma and Corlim Village is on stilts whereby all highway traffic will ply on the elevated portion and underneath portion will act as a service road causing least disturbance to the existing business setups beyond the acquisition line.

In view of the above, there should not be any fear and anxiety in the minds of Goans and villagers of Bhoma and Corlim that their traditional residential houses, Temples will be demolished and their tradition, culture and livelihood will be affected, as barring the above mentioned 4 residential houses in each village that are going to be demolished, no other residential houses are going to be demolished to build this highway, for which residents are going to be given rehabilitation plots. Similarly the temporary kiosks that are going to be removed are also going to be rehabilitated and therefore their livelihood shall not be snatched away from them. As mentioned above, no temple shall be demolished and hence the question of disturbing the tradition or culture does not arise