

MARBLE BAR-PORT HEDLAND ROAD

**477. Hon KEN BASTON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:**

- (1) Is the minister aware that the road between Marble Bar and Port Hedland carries an average of 267 vehicles a week, of which 32 per cent are trucks and road trains?
- (2) If so, is the minister aware that 36 kilometres north of Marble Bar and 140 kilometres south of Port Hedland there is a narrow, winding, extremely dangerous section of the road that is six kilometres long?
- (3) Are there plans to rebuild or upgrade this section of the road; and, if so, when will this be done? If not, why not?

**Hon ADELE FARINA replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(3) The member may be aware that the Gallop government completed the sealing of the road from Marble Bar to Port Hedland in 2004. It is now working on planned upgrades of this sealed road, including the section the member has referred to. In the meantime, various traffic management measures, such as limiting the speed of road trains to 40 kilometres an hour, have been put in place to improve safety on this section of road.