

(4) It should connect major ports and large industrial/tourist centres;

(5) It should meet strategic requirements.

In addition to the above, emphasis is also laid on economic considerations.

(c) The national average kilometres of the National Highways in terms of area and population are 9.03 Kms. per thousand square Km. and 5.30 Kms. per lakh of population, respectively.

(d) A statement is attached.

Statement

Statement showing Length of National Highways in kilometres

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total length in Km.
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	2299
2	Assam	1468
3	Bihar	2117
4	Chandigarh	24
5	Delhi	72
6	Goa	229
7	Gujarat	1352
8	Haryana	729
9	Himachal Pradesh	630
10	Jammu & Kashmir	541
11	Kerala	784
12	Madhya Pradesh	2670
13	Maharashtra	2861
14	Manipur	211
15	Meghalaya	345
16	Mysore	1996
17	Nagaland	113
18	Orissa	1649

1	2	3
19	Punjab	865
20	Rajasthan	2157
21	Sikkim	62
22	Tamil Nadu	1749
23	Tripura	200
24	Uttar Pradesh	2328
25	West Bengal	1419
TOTAL		28870

Distribution of rubber contraceptive in rural areas

837. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of distributing rubber contraceptive, free of cost, in the rural areas and among slum dwellers; and

(b) if not, what other steps are going to be taken in this regard which will cover the people of the lowest economic strata of the society?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) Yes, Nirodh (Condoms) are distributed free of cost in the rural areas as also to the urban slum dwellers through the field staff of Primary Health Centres and sub-centres and urban Family Welfare Planning Centres.

(b) Question does not arise.

Cultural Attaches in Indian Missions Abroad

838. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Missions (Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates) abroad;