

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3341

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000

MAINTENANCE FUND FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

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

- (a) whether the Planning Commission Task Force on infrastructure has proposed a maintenance fund for National Highway Development Project;
- (b) if so, the details of main recommendations made by the said Task Force thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented and the said fund set up; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for financing, implementation and operation of the National Highways in the Country in the New Millennium?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (MAJOR GENERAL (RETI KHANDURI, AVSM)

- (a) to (d) Task Force on Infrastructure is seized of the requirement of maintenance of National Highway assets created under National Highways Development Project (NHDP)A number of options are under discussion, e.g. including maintenance in the contract for development projects, having separate long term maintenance contracts, combining maintenance with Construction Contracts, etc. No separate fund is contemplated. Efficacy of these suggestions will be tried out in future contracts.
- (e) Government has undertaken the prestigious NHDP project in the country. It is financed from cess fund, market borrowings, external assistance and private sector funding. Modern methods of construction and operation through qualified, well-equipped and financially sound contractors are adopted. The work is supervised by specialist consultants.