

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4148  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002  
OFFICE EXPENSES  
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

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

- (a) the expenditure incurred under various heads such as publicity, advertisement, hospitality catering, opening ceremonies, seminars, conference, tours (including foreign visits), STD and ISD telephone bills, electricity bills especially the electricity bills of airconditioners and coolers in various departments and undertakings under the Ministry during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government propose to launch any drive to cut down the expenditure being incurred under above heads;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RE B.C.KHANDURI))

(a) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways was created in November, 2000 after splitting of the erstwhile Ministry of Surface Transport. The formal bifurcation of the staff came into force with effect from 1.6.2001. There are no departments and undertakings under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Details of expenditure incurred under various budget sub heads of the Ministry during the financial year 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto July, 2002) is as under:

Sub heads	Financial year 2001-02	Financial year 2002-03 (upto 31st July)
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Advertisement /Publicity	Nil	Nil
Hospitality	Rs. 5,76,217	Rs.1,23,848
Telephone	Rs.55,50,055	Rs.9,96,637
TA(Domestic)	Rs.17,30,000	Rs.2,82,872
TA( Foreign)	Rs.22,93,704	Rs.9,36,079
Electricity	Rs. 9,76,446	Rs.1,29,918

No separate record in respect of expenditure incurred on the electricity bills of airconditioners and coolers is maintained.

(b) to (d) : All possible steps are taken to cut down the expenditure as per instructions of the Ministry of Finance.