

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1148
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
CENTRAL FUND FOR JESSORE ROAD
AJAY CHAKRABORTY

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

- (a) whether the Union Government are providing assistance to Government of West Bengal to maintain and improve the Jessore Road, the main link road between Bangladesh and India;
- (b) if so, the funds allocated and released therefor during the last three years;
- (c) whether any programme for widening of said road is under consideration of the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(MAJOR GENERAL (RETD KHANDURI)

(a) This road comprises of State road and National Highways as below.

- i. From Km. 0 to Km. 14.4 (Length 14.4 Km.) State road
- ii. From Km. 14.4 to Km. 23 (Barasat) (Length 8.6 Km.) NH-34
- iii. From Km. 0 (Barasat) to Bangladesh Border (Length 59.4 Km) NH-35

The development and maintenance of the State road portion is the responsibility of the State Government of West Bengal and that of National Highway portion is the responsibility of this Ministry.

(b) Widening and strengthening of the State road portion from Km. 8.4 to Km. 14.4 has been approved in the year 2001-02 at a cost of Rs.15.00 crore under Central Road Fund.Regarding National Highway portion, improvement of riding surface in a length of 35 Km. has been sanctioned for Rs. 5.62 crore during the last three years. Release of funds under Central Road Fund (CRF) and allocations for development and maintenance of National Highways are made State-wise and not work-wise. During the last three years, an amount of Rs. 21.6 crore was released under CRF and allocations of Rs. 270.36 crore for original works and Rs.105.16 crore for maintenance & repair works have been made for National Highways in the State of West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Out of total length of 82.4 Km. of this road, 23.4 Km. has two lane carriageway, 56.3 Km. has intermediate lane and 3.1 Km. has four lane carriageway. At present, there is no proposal for widening of this National Highway.

(e) Widening of National Highways is taken up in a phased manner based on traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of resources.