

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2112
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
UPGRADATION OF STATE HIGHWAYS
Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran

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

- (a) the target fixed for upgradation of State Highways/Roads into National Highways during Tenth Plan in the country;
- (b) the percentage of National Highways to total road length in Tamil Nadu as on date; and
- (c) the effective measures proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the percentage of National Highways in Tamil Nadu?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) During the Tenth Plan, the national target for expansion of National Highways network is 2000 km against which a length of 7457 km of State roads have already been upgraded to National Highways up till February, 2004.
- (b) The total road length in the State of Tamil Nadu as on date is about 61530 km. The present total length of National Highways in the State is 4183 km. The percentage of National Highways to the total road length in the State of Tamil Nadu is 6.8%.
- (c) The National Highway network in the country is about 65569 km. Huge investment will have to be made to upgrade these highways to the National Highways standard. At present, emphasis is being given to the development of the already declared National Highways instead of further expansion. Considering the extent of investment required for upgrading the highways already declared as National Highways and their maintenance, at present, it is not feasible to declare more roads as National Highways.