GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:268 ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010 CAPACITY BUILDING IN ROAD SECTOR Mani Shri Jose K.;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

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

(a) whether any assessment regarding the availability of skilled/unskilled labour in the road sector in the country has been made particularly in view of the prevailing growth scenario in the sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has addressed the issue of capacity building in the road sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.268 FOR ANSWER ON 16-03-2010 ASKED BY SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY AND SHRI JOSE K. MANI REGARDING CAPACITY BUILDING IN ROAD SECTOR

(a) and (b): This Ministry has not made any assessment regarding the availability of skilled/unskilled labour in the road sector in the Country. However, a study by the World bank Titled "Indian Road Construction Industry" was published in November, 2008. It inter- alia highlighted that under the high growth scenario, the likely shortfall of skilled and semi-skilled workers over the next eight years in India would be to the extent of 55-64%.

(c) and (d): The Government is already seized of the various issues relating to road sector including Capacity building. In order to build up and upgrade the capacity of highway engineers the Government has set up the National Institute for Training of Highway Engineers (NITHE), Noida which imparts training to fresh as well as in-service highway engineers of the country. So far NITHE has trained 18,450 highway engineers since 2001.