

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:250

ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009

QUALITY OF POLYMER MODIFIED BITUMEN USED IN ROADS

Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

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

- (a) whether Polymer Modified Bitumen (PMB) is permitted to be used in the construction of National Highways;
- (b) if so, whether the PMB used in road projects of NHAI neither meets international standards nor conforms to the standards of Bureau of Indian Standards specifications;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether steps have been taken to ensure that the quality of National Highways is not compromised in the process?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (d) The Polymer Modified Bitumen (PMB) is permitted to be used in the construction of National Highways (NHs). PMB to be used in road projects are required to conform to Indian Roads Congress (IRC) Standards viz. IRC Special Publication : 53-2002 "Guidelines on use of Polymer and Rubber Modified Bitumen in Road Construction". The projects of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) using PMB, are also conforming to the IRC SP: 53. IRC SP:53 has taken into account Indian and overseas experiences, and it is a published document. Polymer Modified Bitumen is used to improve the durability of the roads constructed.