

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3939  
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010  
DAMAGE TO NHS DUE TO OVERLOADING  
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

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

- (a) whether overloading by vehicles is a major cause of damage to National Highways and reduction in their life span;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether it has come to light that the National Highways constructed during 2005-06 may not last till their designated life span of 15 years because of overloading by vehicles;
- (d) whether steps have been taken/ proposed to check the menace of over loading to repair the damaged roads; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the allocations made for replacing/strengthening National Highway during each of the last two years alongwith the achievements made so far?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI R.P.N.SINGH)

(a)&(b) Yes Sir. There are provisions in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to direct a vehicle suspected of being overloaded to be weighed. If found overloaded, the excess load is to be off-loaded before allowing the vehicle to proceed further, besides penalties for such overloading. The enforcement of these provisions lies with the State Governments.

(c)to(e) It is a fact that roads constructed in any year may not last their design period due to plying of overloaded vehicles. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 9.11.2005 in the matter of Shri Paramjit Bhasin and others Vs Union of India and others (WP No 136/2003) has held that in case a vehicle is detected to be overloaded the excess load has to be necessarily offloaded besides levy of penalty before allowing the vehicle to proceed further. The order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court has been brought to the notice of all the State Governments for compliance. The laying of new roads or repair of damaged road is taken up depending upon availability of funds and inter-se-priority. The allocations for roads are made Statewise and such allocation is utilized for development and maintenance of existing roads. No separate allocation is made for roads damaged due to overloading.