

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3717
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
HABITATIONS ON NH ROUTES
Shantha J.

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

- (a) whether the Government/NHAI have any policy for avoiding densely populated areas while planning for expansion/construction of National Highways/Express Highways in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the construction of by-passes in this regard has led to cost escalation of such projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, NH-wise and State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government/NHAI have taken up the matter of heavy residential/commercial constructions in the vicinity of the NH impeding the expansion projects therein; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) As per the laid down guiding principles covering route selection and highway location, it is advisable to by-pass the built-up area staying well clear of the limits upto which the town or village is anticipated to grow in future as highways through villages and towns increase traffic hazards and cause delay and congestion. Generally this aspect is duly considered while planning National Expressways or for the improvement / widening of National Highways (NHs) taken up under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP). For stretches of NHs not included under NHDP, the provision of bypasses are selectively made keeping in view the availability of funds, density of through traffic, developments taking place in and around the NH sections and inter-se priority.

(c) and (d) The provision of bypasses in any project is made as per specific project requirements and the cost implications thereof are also included in the total project cost. Separate analysis for determining increase in project costs for providing bypasses are not made.

(e) and (f) The Government has enacted the Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002 for control of land within the NHs, right of way (ROW) and traffic moving on the NHs and also for removal of unauthorized occupation thereon. The Act was brought into force on 27.1.2005. The Ministry has taken up the issue of enforcement of the provisions of this Act with the State Governments from time to time. The matter of controlling of construction activities beyond the ROW of the NHs is the subject matter of the State Governments concerned.