

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3868
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
ECO-FRIENDLY HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) the monitoring mechanism/ monitoring bodies set up to assess the impact of construction of highways on environment in ecologically sensitive pockets;
- (b) whether any institutions are engaged in developing eco-friendly highways construction methods; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) This Ministry has issued guidelines that roads should be planned in such a manner that all national parks and sanctuaries are bypassed and integrity of protected area is maintained. Wildlife corridors also need to be avoided or mitigative measures need to be employed. The executing agencies undertaking the highway projects carry out the environmental impact assessment during preparation of the DPR. For major projects, environment clearance is obtained from the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Government is encouraging use of new technology and non conventional raw materials for road construction, maintenance and rehabilitation such as modified bitumen using crumb rubber and plastic waste. Research schemes are being sanctioned by Ministry to various institutions such as Central Road Research Institute (CRRl) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras.