

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4305
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
FUNDS FOR ROAD DEVELOPMENT
Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to invest more funds for road development and to appoint a single regulatory body to overcome the constraints faced by this sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount sanctioned and the time by which the said body is likely to be set up;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch schemes to make tribal areas in various States including Jharkhand accessible to National Highways by laying roads; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided to the States, State- wise?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b) The budgetary allocations for the Central Sector Roads has been increased from Rs. 13,770 crore in year 2008-09 to Rs. 15,198 crore during the current year 2009-10. The Government is examining the feasibility for setting up of an Independent Regulator for Highways Sector. No time frame has been fixed for setting up the Independent Regulator.
- (c) and (d) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The development and maintenance of the State Roads including State Highways is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. The development and maintenance of the National Highways are not taken up on the basis of demographic or regional pattern of the country.