

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4476

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010

SHORTAGE OF TECHNICAL OFFICERS IN HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar

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

- (a) whether inordinate delay is taking place in the implementation of highways projects due to shortage of technical officers/engineers in the Highway Sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether project work of roads of certain States has been suspended due to shortage of skilled engineers;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate an advance scheme to overcome to the shortage of technical officers/engineers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No sir. However, there is some delay in implementation of Highway Projects, mainly due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, Environment and Forest clearances, clearances of Road Over Bridges (RoBs), law and order problems in some States, etc.

(c) No sir.

(d) & (e) With the increase in mandate of NHAI, recruitment of technical manpower in NHAI has been increased in a phased manner. The Government has set up the National Institute for Training of Highway Engineers (NITHE), Noida which imparts training to fresh as well as in-service highway engineers of the country. So far NITHE has trained more than 18,000 highways engineers since 2001, which includes engineers from other developing countries. There are also other Training Institutes in the public and private sector imparting training to highway engineers. Highway Engineers are also deputed for training abroad under various International Co-operation Schemes for latest technical know-how in this Sector.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) & (e) above.