

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1735

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011

CONNECTIVITY OF RELIGIOUS/TOURIST PLACES WITH ROAD

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh; Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government/National Highway Authority of India (NHA) has formulated any action plan to connect all the religious/tourist places including Buddha Pilgrimage with road in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of financial assistance provided to various States including Madhya Pradesh in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said plan is likely to be approved?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) network in the country. The State Governments are responsible for development and maintenance of State roads. The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process and the works for development and maintenance of NHs are taken up based on the traffic density, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

The Ministry has taken initiatives for development of NHs under various phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in the North East (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package, Special Programme for development of roads in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, Special Programme for development of NHs to 2-lane NH standards, etc. Out of these programmes, SARDP-NE including Arunachal Pradesh Package and Special Programme for development of roads in the LWE affected areas also include development of some State roads. Developments of NHs are also taken up under the Annual Plan of the Ministry.

Apart from this, the Ministry also allocates funds to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of State Roads (excluding rural roads) under Central Road Fund (CRF) schemes and Economic Importance (EI) & Inter-State Connectivity (ISC) schemes as per the provisions of the CRF Act, 2000.

However, this Ministry/National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has not formulated any specific action plan to connect all the religious/tourist places including Buddhist Pilgrimage with road in the country.