

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2889
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011
TRANSPORT SYSTEM
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) the details of the Government's action on strengthening the public transport system and improving the road safety scenario across the country;
- (b) the action taken report to enhance the quality control checks in National Highways infrastructure development;
- (c) whether the Government has taken necessary steps to establish the National Express Highways Authority;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is seeking international aid in terms of technical assistance to bring the highly efficient technology in highway's construction; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the participated countries and nature of technology transfer and their implementation in road construction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has developed a scheme to provide financial assistance to the States / UTs for implementation of Information Technology projects, such as, introduction of Global Positioning System (GPS)/Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) based vehicle tracking system, computerised reservation system, electronic ticket vending machines etc. The scheme has been made effective from 15.03.2010. So far, sanction orders have been issued on the proposals received from 08 State Governments. Various initiatives to reduce road accidents, such as, segregation of local and through traffic by constructing flyovers, underpasses, bypasses, service roads etc; user facilities like bus / truck lay by, wayside amenities; safety features like road markings, signages, crash barriers, raised pavement markers, delineators, lighting in urban areas / bridges / flyovers, speed retarders or cross roads at junctions etc.; and pedestrian facilities like zebra crossings, pedestrian underpasses, foot overbridges, pedestrian guardrails etc. have been taken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHA). National Highways Authority of India has also appointed Safety Consultants for road safety design and constructions stage audit of 56 projects covering a length of 5,364 km. Bids for 26 more projects have also been invited by NHA.

Besides above, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has also taken a number of steps for road safety, such as, refresher training to heavy motor vehicle drivers in the unorganised sector, setting up of driving training schools in the country, publicity campaign on road safety awareness, tightening of safety standards of vehicles etc.

(c) & (d) No, Madam. However, the Eleventh Five Year Plan document includes setting up of an Expressway Authority of India to formulate and implement a Master Plan for 15,600 kms. high density access controlled expressways.

(e) & (f) NHA invites bids for Highways Projects through global tendering wherein foreign companies in Joint Venture with Indian Companies are participating and bidding for these projects.