

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1966
ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012
LONGEVITY OF ROADS
Tanwar Shri Ashok

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

- (a) whether the Government/NHAI has taken the initiative to improve the longevity of roads or creating all weather roads;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government/NHAI has signed technical agreement with other countries in respect to improving the technology in building road;and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country through various executing agencies including National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). National Highway development projects are planned and designed for constructing all weather roads for specific designed life, in accordance with approved Standards, Specifications, Codes and Guidelines which are reviewed and updated from time to time for incorporating latest developments including introduction of new materials, specifications and techniques such as modified bitumen, Stone Matrix Asphalt, Recycling of Pavements, Ground Improvement techniques etc. for improving the longevity of roads.

(c) & (d) Yes Madam. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and United Kingdom Trade and Investment (UKTI) have signed an Agreement on 18th January, 2011 to develop and expand co-operation in the roads and highway sector in India on the basis of mutual benefit. The aim of the Agreement is to stimulate business activities and to facilitate technical knowledge up gradation between public and private sector enterprises and professional institutions. Besides, highway engineers of the Ministry and NHAI regularly undertake collaborative training programmes in various developed countries for gaining technical knowledge for improving the technology of building roads.