

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:265

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009

ROAD SAFETY

Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Patel Shri R.K. Singh

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

- (a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has decided to cross-check the design of projects on safety grounds in all the upcoming projects across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the NHA also proposes to conduct safety audit of projects on their completion;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the further steps taken/contemplated to ensure safety of roads?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (e) Projects taken up by National Highways Authority of India (NHA) are based on Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)/ Feasibility Reports prepared by design consultants as per the norms and guidelines laid down by Indian Roads Congress (IRC), which cater for safety aspects also. A system is also in place for Peer Review of DPRs and proof checking of the designs of major structures through a proof consultant in case of projects taken up through Engineering Procurement Contract (EPC). During the implementation stage of the projects, the supervision consultants/independent consultants review the project designs. Reply to parts (c) to (e) is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 265 FOR ANSWER ON 8TH DECEMBER, 2009 ASKED BY SHRI AHIR VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MAADAM AND SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL REGARDING ROAD SAFETY

(c) & (d) Safety audit of 2,825 km of completed sections were undertaken by National Highways Authority of India (NHA) and requisite safety measures were either included in the six-laning projects or in Operation & Maintenance (O&M) contracts. In upcoming projects, the system is being strengthened as it requires now to appoint a safety consultant to review the project designs, to conduct the safety audit of completed projects and also once in every accounting year during O&M stage.

(e) A Road Safety Cell has been created within NHA. One safety officer has been designated in each Regional Office of NHA to oversee the safety measures during construction as well as O&M of the project stretches. Ministry is also contemplating to set up a National Road Safety Board (NRSB) based on Sundar Committee Report.