

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3098  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009  
CUTTING OF TREES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NHs  
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether there are any guidelines governing the cutting of trees while construction of National Highways; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) During widening and improvement of National Highways, existing trees are generally preserved as far as possible. Where the cutting of trees are unavoidable, the executing Agencies take clearance from the concerned Governments. For major projects, environment clearance which includes cutting of trees is obtained from the Ministry of Environment & Forests. Requisite amount for compensatory afforestation is deposited with Forest Departments. At least twice the number of trees cut are planted under compensatory afforestation.