

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4095
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING OF NHS
Pakkirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the funds for strengthening of planned works selected under the National Highway Development Programme during the period prescribed by the National Highways Authority of India is not being sanctioned by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the authority responsible for the maintenance of roads during the said period and otherwise; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The development and maintenance works on National Highways (NHs) are implemented by the Ministry on the agency basis through the various agencies, such as the State Governments (through State Public Works Departments (PWDs)), Border Roads Organisation (BRO) and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). Accordingly, the stretches of the NHs are entrusted to these three agencies for their development and maintenance.

As per the Ministry's policy, actions are initiated for entrustment of the NH stretches included under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) to NHAI at the time of issue of Request For Proposal (RFP) by NHAI. Till that time, these NHs are maintained by the State PWDs / BRO in such a manner that there is no difficulty in movement of traffic. During this period, the works such as renewal of wearing course, improvement of riding quality meeting the requirement of prescribed cycle as well as condition of the road, and other improvement works like construction of culverts, drains, strengthening of pavements, etc. (which are required for safe movement of traffic and which can be completed before handing over the stretches of NHs to NHAI) can also be sanctioned.

For the stretches of NHs where 4/6 laning works are under implementation by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the maintenance of existing roads is being carried out by the Contractor/ Concessionaire as part of their obligations under contract/ concession agreement. In case of sections entrusted to NHAI where 4/6 laning have not yet started, the maintenance of existing roads is being carried out by NHAI directly or through State PWDs with funds provided directly by NHAI. Completed sections of NHAI funded projects are being maintained through Operation and Maintenance contracts and the sections being developed under Built Operate Transfer (BOT) basis are being maintained by the concessionaire. After the entrustment of the stretches of NHs to NHAI, NHAI or the appointed Concessionaire takes necessary measures for the maintenance of the NHs to keep it in the traffic-worthy condition.