

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3688

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015

PLANTING OF FRUIT BEARING TREES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Sanghamita Dr.(Smt.) Mantaz

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

- (a) whether there is any scheme or proposal to plant fruit bearing trees along side the National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. The Government has a policy for plantation of trees along the National Highways which includes guidelines on location of trees, their removal and re-plantation, selection of species, typical arrangement, set-back of trees on curves, maintenance, landscaping of bridge approaches, etc. As far as possible, the trees planted should be fruit bearing. Where available roadside land is inadequate for large scale plantation, atleast one row of fruit bearing trees should be planted along the National Highways. In addition, the 'Guidelines on Landscaping and Tree Plantation' published by the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) as IRC:SP:21 provide for plantation of trees, including the fruit bearing trees, on both sides of National Highways, along with other species, based on the suitability of particular species to a particular climate and ground conditions.

(c) The provision for plantation of trees is made as a part of projects for the development of National Highways. The plantation of trees along National Highways and their maintenance is done through the State Forest Department.