

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5983
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
LAYING OF PIPELINES
Kashyap Shri Virender

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the inconvenience caused to the public and increase in financial burden on exchequer due to laying of pipelines for the various types of cables after the road construction work is completed; and

(b) if so, the criteria laid down in this regard along with the measures taken to avoid inconvenience to the public and increase in financial burden on exchequer?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. This Ministry is primarily responsible for the construction and maintenance of National Highways. As per the extant policy guidelines of the Ministry, any authorized Licensee of Department of Tele-communication / Registered Infrastructure Provider is eligible to seek permission for laying of telecom cables/ducts within the Right of Way (ROW) of National Highways. In cases where cable ducts with sufficient space are already available along the National Highways, the cables shall be laid in such ducts subject to technical requirements being fulfilled. As a security against improper restoration of ground, damages caused to other underground installations, disruptions to traffic, failures caused thereof, etc. a Performance Bank Guarantee @ Rs. 100/- per route metre shall be furnished by the licensees. Besides, the Ministry has also taken the initiative to construct ducts for laying optical fibre cables along National Highways as 'pilot projects' and charging suitable rentals for the use of these ducts.