

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 401
ANSWERED ON 17TH NOVEMBER, 2016

PROLIFERATION OF VEHICLES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

401. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of traffic on National Highways (NHs) to the total road traffic in the country;
- (b) whether construction of highways has gained pace during the last two years but that is not commensurate with the increase in the number of vehicles, if so, the details of percentage of highways construction against increased number of vehicles;
- (c) whether the Transport Research Wing of the Union Government has released a report titled 'Basic Road Statistics of India, in the month of September, if so, the salient features of the report; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to regulate the number of vehicles and accelerate the work of highway construction?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) and (b) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The total length of NHs at present is about 1, 03, 613 km. Further, about 47,890 km length of State roads have been approved In-Principle as new NHs subject to outcome of their Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). The existing NHs comprise of about 1.9 % of total road network, but carry about 40% of total road traffic. The total number of registered vehicles in the country increased from about 17.6 crore as on 31.03.2013 to about 21 crore as on 31.03.2015. During the years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, about 4,260 km, 4,410 km and 6,061 km length of NHs have been developed respectively.

(c) The latest issue of Basic Road Statistics of India (2013-14 and 2014-15) published by the Transport Research Wing (TRW) of the Ministry in September, 2016 include details such as the length of various categories of roads, their percentage share in total road length, etc. The report contains information upto 31st March, 2015. The salient features of the Report is at Annexure-I.

(d) The State Governments are concerned with regulation of the number of vehicles in the States. The steps taken by the Government to accelerate the work of highway construction is at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 401 ANSWERED ON 17.11.2016 ASKED BY SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE AND OTHERS REGARDING PROLIFERATION OF VEHICLES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

The salient features of the Basic Road Statistics of India (2013-14 and 2014-15)

(a) Category-wise distribution of Roads as on 31.03.2015

Category of Road	As on 31 st March 2015	
	Length of Road (km)	Share in total road length (%)
National Highways (NHs)	97,991	1.79
State Highways (SHs)	1,67,109	3.05
Other PWD (OPWD) Roads	11,01,178	20.12
Rural Roads	33,37,255	61.0
Urban Roads	4,67,106	8.54
Project Roads	3,01,505	5.50
Total	54,72,144	100.00

(b) The total road length of the country increased at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 4.2% up to 2015 from 1951.

(c) The five States with the largest road networks (excluding Jawahar Rozgar Yojana roads), viz. Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka West Bengal and Assam accounted for about 43.04 % as on 31st March 2015 in the total road length of the country.

(d) As on 31st March 2015, India's road density at 1.66 kms/sq.km of area was higher than that of Japan (0.91 km/ sq km), USA (0.67 km/ sq km), China (0.46 km/ sq. km), Brazil (0.18 km/sq.km) and Russian Federation (0.08 km/ sq km)

(e) NHs in India, which accounted for 1.79 % of the total length as on 31st March, 2015 was much lower than that of some of the developed countries of the world such as Japan, Korea Republic, Russian Federation, UK and Brazil.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 401 ANSWERED ON 17.11.2016 ASKED BY SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE AND OTHERS REGARDING PROLIFERATION OF VEHICLES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Steps taken to accelerate the work of highway construction

Regular meetings are held with project developers, State Governments and contractors in Head Quarter by Ministry with Regional Officers, concessionaires /contractors to make the construction of projects hassle free. To expedite completion of highways projects, various steps have been taken which include streamlining of land acquisition & environment clearances, exit for equity investors, premium re-schedulement, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc. Further, The Government has taken major initiatives towards expediting implementation of languishing projects. The various measures taken include:

Environment and Forest Clearance

- Delegation of powers to Regional Offices by Ministry of Environment and Forest.
- EC (Environment Clearance) not required for length of 100 km. Even beyond 100 Km, EC is not required if widening is restricted to 40m and realignment to 60m.

ROBs (Rail Over Bridge) / RUBs (Rail Under Bridge):

The procedure for GAD (General Arrangement Drawing) approved by Railways for ROBs has been simplified and made online. Maintenance charges which were hampering the progress of many projects, stand waived by Railways. Standard design have been put on website.

Financial initiatives

- Loan secured to the extent of termination payment.
- Infrastructure debt fund – Long term financing at low interest rates
- Reschedulement of premium – Bank Rate+2%.
- 100% exit after 2 years of completion in projects awarded before 2009.
- Fund infusion by NHAI in stalled projects where the physical progress is 50% and the concessionaire is facing shortage of funds.
- NHAI liberally permitting refinance with elongation of repayment period. RBI (Reserve Bank of India) has also issued circular for providing long term debt finance matching the concession period without classifying the exposure as restructured.
