GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1018 ANSWERED ON 27TH JUNE, 2019

HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

1018. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has increased infrastructure spending and funding for road constructions in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a significant growth has been noticed in the number of highway construction projects as a result of the same and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure safety of road users, workers as well as environment protection and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the schemes formulated and implemented for developing and growing for the tree plantation across the highways?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). Details of fund allocated for development of NHs and expenditure incurred / fund released during last 5 years are as follows:-

Amount in Rs. crore									
Sr.	Year Allocation				Expenditure / Fund Released				
No.		Budgetary	IEBR *	Total	Budgetary	IEBR*	Total		
			Target to			Actual			
			raise			raised			
1	2014-15	24,707.96	7,611.11	32,319.07	24,417.62	3,344.00	27,761.62		
2	2015-16	40,970.42	42,694.50	83,664.92	40,560.15	23,281.00	63,841.15		
3	2016-17	41,431.17	59,279.00	1,00,710.17	40,654.02	33,118.00	73,772.02		
4	2017-18	50,218.65	59,279.00	1,09,497.65	49,664.60	50,533.00	1,00,197.60		
5	2018-19	68,110.72	62,000.00	1,30,110.72	66,803.86	61,217.00	1,28,020.86		
* Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources									

Apart from this, the Ministry also allocates funds for development of State Roads under the Central Road Fund (CRF) Scheme and Economic Importance and Inter State Connectivity (EI&ISC) Schemes as per the provisions of the CRF Act, 2000 amended by the Finance Act from time to time. Year wise details of accrual/allocation of funds for States / UTs and expenditure/release of funds under CRF and EI and ISC schemes during last five years are as follows:-

Amount in Rs. crore										
Veen	CRF(Sta	ate Roads)	EI&ISC							
Year	Accrual	Release	Fund Allocated	Expenditure incurred						
2014-15	2,635.60	2,094.78	150.00	93.11						
2015-16	2,851.80	2,369.47	355.35	267.09						
2016-17	7,175.00	5,069.82	805.00	746.35						
2017-18	6,764.48	6,367.11	759.20	677.56						
2018-19	6,998.93	6,784.50	500.00	474.82						

(b) Length of NHs developed / constructed during last five years were as follows.

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Length (km)	4,410	6,061	8,231	9,829	10,855

(c) NHs are designed and constructed as per Indian Roads Congress Codes and the Ministry's relevant Guidelines / Policies. Road Safety measures and provisions are part of the design and construction of NHs. Road Safety audits are also carried out as part of NH development projects on Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) / Build Operate Transfer (BOT) modes. Identification and rectification of road accident black spots, improvements on safety on NHs through Road Safety Annual Plan, taking up of Road Safety audits, installation of crash barriers at accident prone locations in Hilly terrain etc, are taken up to minimize accidents on NHs.

Safety of Road Construction Workers and Environmental Protection are also part of design and construction of NHs and these are implemented as per the relevant policies / guidelines and provisions of the Contract / Concession Agreements.

(d) The Ministry has promulgated the Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification & Maintenance) Policy, 2015 with regard to planting of trees in place of trees cut due to widening of NHs as per the Statutory conditions by different agencies. Planting of trees in lieu of the cut trees is generally done after substantial completion of Civil construction works to avoid damage to the planted saplings. Like tree cutting, planting is done by different agencies, including the Forest Department, depending upon the requirements of individual project and contractual conditions.
