

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3570
ANSWERED ON 10th AUGUST, 2023**

INNOVATIONS IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

3570. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the innovations in road construction prescribed by MoRTH, NHAI;

(b) whether all the agencies engaged in road construction are following the said innovations/guidelines and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said innovations are being violated at many places and if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether road safety audit during road construction works are mandatory and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action proposed to be taken in case the road construction agencies do not conduct road safety audit;

(f) the details of power/term of reference and functions of the Member of Parliament's Road Safety Committee at district level;

(g) whether this committee can ask for road safety audit of the project under construction by MoRTH, NHAI, NH and if so, the details thereof; and

(h) whether the committee can take departmental action if road safety audit is not done under the project and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (c) Innovations in materials & construction process for road construction is a continuous process. Based on International best practices and outcome of indigenous research, new standards/guidelines are framed by Indian Roads Congress (IRC) and existing standards/guidelines of IRC are amended from time to time. MoRTH/NHAI have also issued policy guidelines on certain innovative materials/processes. Further new/innovative materials are accredited by IRC. All such materials and processes as allowed by IRC standards/guidelines, International Standards such as American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM), Euro Codes, British Codes as well as materials accredited by IRC are allowed in National Highways Projects. NH Projects are generally implemented on EPC/HAM/BOT modes where contractor/concessionaire carry out their own design in accordance with applicable manual, standards/guidelines/codes etc. and then these are reviewed/approved by AE/IE before its actual use in the Project.

(d) to (e) Road Safety Audit (RSA) is an essential part of any National Highway development project. RSA is carried out at different stages namely during design, construction and before issue of completion certificate of the project .

(f) to (h) Ministry vide its Notification No. RT-25043/03/2017-RS dated 19.12.2019 has created Member of Parliaments' Road Safety Committee in each district of the country under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the district. The terms of reference (ToR) of the Committee include monitoring of road safety activities, monitoring of road accidents data, reviewing and monitoring of identification & rectification of black spots, promoting road safety campaign etc.
