Dr. Pritam Gopinathrao Munde:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Indian roads are unsurfaced and not suitable for use of vehicular traffic and their condition is further aggravated due to the poor maintenance especially in rainy season;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the National Highways suffer from the deficiencies of inadequate capacity, weak pavement, poor riding quality, distressed bridges, unabridged level crossings, congested cities, lack of by-pass roads, lack of wayside amenities and safety measures etc.;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the standards of road engineering and construction require to be upgraded to meet the challenges of the future; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps being taken to meet the challenges of road sector in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Point of the House.
(a) & (b) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. National Highways are generally maintained in traffic worthy condition. During rainy season, damages sometimes occur to National Highways in few places due to flooding, landslides, heavy down pour etc., but the restoration works are promptly carried out and traffic restored to normal.

(c) & (d) Development and upgradation of National Highways is a continuous process. MoRTH has been taking up projects such as construction of expressways, capacity upgradation of existing National Highways, rehabilitation & reconstruction of existing pavement, rehabilitation & reconstruction of existing bridges and structures, construction of Road Over Bridges (RoBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs), bypasses, ring roads, way side amenities, safety measures, etc. on existing National Highways depending upon traffic demand, existing condition of pavement, bridges & structures, safety requirements, inter-se priority etc.

(e) & (f) National Highways including bridges, structures, tunnels, etc. thereon are constructed, maintained and repaired/rehabilitated as per MoRTH and Indian Roads Congress (IRC) standards, guidelines and specifications. Such standards, guidelines and specifications are periodically updated based on international best practises, feedback from the stake holders and indigenous research works carried out in academic & research institutes.

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