

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) wherever 4/6 laning works are under implementation, to keep the existing roads in traffic worthy condition, the maintenance of existing roads are carried out by the Contractor/Concessionaire as part of their obligations under contract/concession agreement. In case of sections entrusted to NHAI where, 4/6 laning have not yet started, the maintenance of existing roads are being carried out by NHAI directly or through State PWDs with funds provided by Ministry/NHAI. Completed sections under NHDP are being maintained by NHAI through Operation and Maintenance (O&M) contracts. In Gujarat, all roads under NHDP are being maintained in traffic worthy condition and repair and resurfacing works are carried out on routine basis without any delay.

Road safety on NHs

2067.DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

MS. MABEL REBELLO:

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

- (a) whether in view of World Bank's serious concern over tardy progress of road safety on highways, Government has finally decided and has framed new road safety management rules for all highway projects in India;
- (b) whether new rules would be implemented through an independent consultant who would conduct road safety audits and even suggest penalties on errant contractors;
- (c) whether World Bank had raised objections on project implementation on NH-28; and
- (d) if so, what are new norms and to what extent it has improved safety on roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) In November, 2008 World Bank expressed concern over the tardy progress of Road Safety on some on-going projects in Lucknow - Muzzafarpur Section of NH-28. No new rules have been framed for safety management. However, a checklist of the existing provisions in the Contracts for safety management has been prepared and circulated to the Field Units of NHAI for constant monitoring and rating the Contractors on Safety Management at work sites. An Independent Safety Auditor (IIT, Delhi) has been appointed for carrying out safety audits and for giving their recommendations on worksite safety management. Further, the Model Concession Agreement of Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projects prescribe appointment of the Safety Consultants during development, construction and Operation & Maintenance stages of PPP Projects to undertake safety audits. NHAI through its Project Implementation Units at Field has taken up rigorous monitoring of safety provisions in the contracts, which has improved the provisions of safety measures during construction on projects.