

Need to revise emission norms

4449. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing emission norms are appropriate only for very old vehicles and not for those running on post Euro-II norms;

(b) how do the above norms are relevant when the country is all set to switch over to Euro-IV norms in April, 2010;

(c) whether it is a fact that the PUC norms last revised in 2004 and there was no revision since then; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) and (b) Mass emission norms such as Bharat Stage-II, Bharat Stage-III, Bharat Stage IV etc. are applicable for new vehicles and not for old in-use vehicles. These norms are made applicable in different parts of the country in respect of various categories of motor vehicles, manufactured from a date notified by the Government. At present, Bharat Stage- IV norms are applicable only in respect of four wheeled vehicles manufactured on and after 1st April, 2010, in the National Capital Region and certain other highly polluting mega cities.

(c) and (d) Tightening of Pollution Under Control (PUC) norms for in-use vehicles is a continuous process. The PUC norms were last revised in 2004. However, State Governments were empowered to prescribe even tighter norms, subject to availability of technical and administrative back-up.

Rs. 10,000 crores stuck in disputes with NHAI

4450. SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to road construction industry claims Rs. 10,000 crores are stuck at various levels of disputes with the National Highways Authority of India;

(b) whether the BK Chaturvedi committee, appointed to resolve the issues in the roads sector, called for a bucket-based approach to resolve disputes plaguing the sector;