

(d) The Government of Jharkhand had submitted utilisation certificates (UCs) for grants such as Calamity Relief Fund, State Specific needs recommended by TFC. Aforementioned guidelines indicate requirements for submission of UCs, which are binding on all States.

Funds for maintenance of NHs

397. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the amount released for the maintenance of National Highways is less than the requirement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the impact of such shortfall of funds; and
- (d) the action that Government plans to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The non-plan allocations that are annually provided by the Ministry of Finance to this Ministry for Maintenance and Repair (M&R) of National Highways (NHs) are of the order of about 40% of the actual requirements as per the Ministry's stipulated norms based on the Report of the Committee on Norms for Maintenance of Roads in India, published in 2001. Accordingly, it has not been possible to allocate sufficient funds to the States under M&R as per the norms of the Ministry. However, the M&R of NHs are carried out annually as per availability of funds, extent of damages, *inter-se* priority, spill-over liabilities of works sanctioned during previous financial year, etc. to keep the NHs in traffic worthy conditions. Inadequate allocation of funds for M&R of NHs has resulted into thin spreading of resources on large stretches of NHs.

The year-wise details of estimated requirement of funds for M&R of NHs and the actual allocation provided to this Ministry are as follows:-

| (Amount in ` Crore) | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Year | Estimated requirement of funds | Allocation provided |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2004-05 | 2,480.00 | 745.56 |
| 2005-06 | 2,480.00 | 868.10 |
| 2006-07 | 2,480.00 | 814.38 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------|----------|------------|
| 2007-08 | 2,280.00 | 1,001.68 |
| 2008-09 | 2,500.00 | 974.32 |
| 2009-10 | 2,500.00 | 1,059.10 |
| 2010-11 | 2,800.00 | 1,989.46 * |
| 2011-12 | 2,800.00 | 1,027.25 |

* -Additional allocation of ` 1,000.10 crore was provided at R.E. stage during 2010-11.

This Ministry has taken up the issue of enhancing the allocations of funds for M&R of NHs from time to time with the Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Finance has agreed to provide additional allocation of ` 300 crore at RE stage of 2011-12.

The Ministry has also taken a policy initiative to take up operation and maintenance of the developed stretches of NHs on Operate-Maintain-Transfer (OMT) basis through private sector participation, thereby leveraging the available resources.

Ban on liquor shop along NH

398. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 1.6 lakh people were killed in road accidents in 2010 across the country and drunk driving on highways is one of the major cause for accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to ban liquor shops along the State and National Highways in an attempt to tackle the number of accidents on highways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Road accident data is compiled in the Ministry in a 19 item format devised under the Asia Pacific Road Accident Database (APRAD)/ Indian Road Accident Data (IRAD) project for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). As per the latest available data, a total number of 1,25,660 persons were killed in road accidents during the year 2009 in India. The main cause of accidents on all roads in India during 2009 was driver's fault (78.5%), of which 5.6 % occurred due to consumption of alcohol and drugs.