

**Proposal for independent regulator for road and  
highways sector**

1224. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up an independent regulator for road and highways sector to protect the interest of commuters and to regulate service quality on roads and highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed authority would address issues such as service quality, assessment of concessionaires claims, service level benchmarks and monitoring compliance concession agreement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) to (d) The Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture has proposed in its 135th Report for setting up of an independent regulator to address the gaps in terms of safeguarding the public safety on Road and Highways, safeguarding the interest of users and other stakeholders, ensuring independent and impartial third-party supervision etc. The matter was examined in this Ministry but the issue of setting up of the proposed independent regulator is yet to be finally decided.

**Target for awarding contracts for construction of  
National Highways**

1225. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target announced by Government for the current year for construction of National Highways in terms of kilometers;

(b) the length of National Highways in kilometres out of the announced target, which have been awarded for construction;

(c) whether it is a fact that percentage of awarded highways is very low; and

(d) if so, the reasons for this slow awarding/construction of National Highways and effort made to expedite the same?