

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in view of this situation, the Ministry is contemplating on limiting the works to BRO or to withdraw them from it; and
- (d) if so, the States in which Government is contemplating such action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (d) To ensure that Border Roads Organisation (BRO) may concentrate for development and maintenance of high altitude with strategic importance roads in border areas, the process of transfer of some National Highways to State PWDs of Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir has been initiated.

Irregularities in construction of highways

†84. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of flaws have come to the light with regard to the quality of highways constructed in the country and these flaws involve faulty tender process and the construction of roads with Bitumen and other substandard material which has resulted in their premature decay;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the estimated annual loss suffered due to the roads constructed with substandard material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (c) The National Highways are constructed as per the IRC guidelines and Ministry's standard specifications for Roads and Bridge works by adopting e-tendering. Whenever there is a defect in the construction, the same is rectified by the contractor within the defects liability period.

Widening of bridges on national highways

85. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several narrow bridges exist on various National Highways in the country causing traffic jams and accidents;
- (b) if so, the number of such spots identified and the action taken to widen such bridges in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise particularly Telangana; and
- (c) the details of action taken/being taken to include such widening of bridges in the estimate itself in the beginning?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.