

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). Discussions were held on necessity for setting up emergency landing facilities along major NH corridor for fixed wing Aircraft between this Ministry and officers of Ministry of Defence.

The Ministry has requested Ministry of Defence to set up a Group to prepare locations deemed suitable for the requirements of the Ministry of Defence.

Under construction NHs in Rajasthan

†802. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways (NHs) under construction in Rajasthan, at present;

(b) whether the construction work of these NHs is not being completed, within the prescribed time limit; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the agencies responsible for non-completion of works in time and the action being taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) The construction works on 19 National Highways in Rajasthan are at various stages of implementation. Some of the projects have been delayed mainly due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, forest & environment clearances, delay by agencies etc. The necessary action is taken by implementing authorities as per contract agreement.

Phasing out of old vehicles

803. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether Government has assured the Supreme Court that it would come out with a policy to phase out all four wheelers that were ten-to-fifteen years old to combat rising air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the draft policy would be made available to the public;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government has made any study on the emission levels of various diesel cars like SUVs and luxury cars and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government would commission any expert study group to find out the emission levels of various diesel cars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) No, Sir, no such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry at present. However, Ministry has drafted a concept note on "Voluntary Vehicle Fleet Modernization Programme" which has been uploaded on the Ministry's website inviting comments and suggestion. This concept note aims to incentivise the scrapping of old vehicles.

(c) and (d) Department of Heavy Industries has instituted a study on the emission levels by various diesel vehicles as compared to the source of air pollution.

Reduction in man-days under MGNREGA

†804. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reduced the yearly man-days for each person with regard to employment guarantee under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the gap between man-days determined, at present and those determined earlier;

(c) the number of man-days fixed for each person annually, at present and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the man-days have been curtailed, in view of unsatisfactory performance under MGNREGA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment in a financial year to every rural household of the country whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Not less than 100 days of employment are provided to registered workers, upon receipt of their demand.

(d) No, Sir.

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