

- The National Highways Authority of India has also deployed 466 ambulances at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.

#### **Unsafe road condition**

935. SHRI K. P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the rainy season, most of the roads are not safe for running a heavyweight vehicle because of weak pavement, distressed bridges, poor riding quality and poor maintenance;
- (b) whether Government has any proposal to rectify the shortfalls; and
- (c) if so, the action taken or to be taken in near future in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) Works on National Highways are executed duly following the specifications and standards laid down by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H) and Indian Road Congress (IRC). National Highways are all weather roads where all types of vehicles including heavy vehicles ply during rainy season also.

(b) and (c) National Highways are being maintained through agencies like NHAI, State PWD's, NHIDCL in traffic worthy condition by means of various maintenance activities of Ordinary Repair, Surface Renewal, Special and Flood Damage Repair as per site requirement whenever damages are noticed. National Highway stretches under BOT/OMT/EPC agreements are maintained by the Concessionaire/Contractor as per the provisions specified in the agreement.

#### **Black spots on NHs**

936. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to identify black spots on National Highways (NHs) where accidents take place frequently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had proposed to set up a Road Safety Authority (RSA) to identify the reasons for road fatalities on National Highways; and

(d) if so, the status of the RSA and to what extent it has succeeded in controlling road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Road accident black spot is a stretch of National Highway of about 500m in length in which five road accidents took place during the last 3 calendar year resulting in 10 fatalities in this period. Based on fatalities during the Calendar Year 2011 to 2014 and 2015 to 2018, the ministry has identified 789 and 5476 black spots, respectively.

(c) and (d) Detailed guidelines for taking up road safety audits on National Highways have been prepared and notified. Road Safety Audits have been made part and parcel of all National Highways development projects on EPC/BOT modes. Ministry has issued circular which makes it mandatory to carry out road safety audit for all new road projects having length of 5 km or more at the stage of Detail Project Report (DPR)/ Engineering Design.

#### **Survey about road conditions in NHs and SHs**

937. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry has made any survey about the road conditions in National Highways (NHs) and State Highways (SHs) all over the country during the last two years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of roads in such Highways that are found in pathetic conditions due to bad maintenance, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the deadline set for the completion of the repair work to avoid major mishap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs).

The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. Development and maintenance of NHs are carried out through various Executing Agencies [viz.