

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2017
ANSWERED ON – 15/12/2021

CHAR DHAM ROAD PROJECT

2017. SMT. MAUSAM NOOR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Supreme Court appointed high level expert committee recommended that the width of the Char-Dham National Highway project should be restricted to 5.5 meters ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government intends to increase the width of the highway, if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (d) the steps Government intends to take to compensate the loss of Himalayan environment in case the width of the Char-Dham project is increased for transportation of troops?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) & (b) Supreme Court appointed high level expert committee submitted two reports, where the majority report by 21 members recommended 10 meter carriageway width and a minority report by 5 members recommended 5.5 meter carriageway width.

(c) & (d) Yes, sir. Ministry of Defence had filed an affidavit in the Hon'ble Supreme Court with a prayer to modify the order dated 08.09.2020 and to allow the widening to 2-lane configuration on Rishikesh-Mana, Tanakpur to Pithoragarh and Rishikesh to Gangotri Highways. Hon'ble Supreme Court has heard the matter and has delivered the judgment on 14.12.2021 allowing the 'application' of Ministry of Defence in accordance with their needs.
