

**Construction of Mughal Road**

3595. MIRZA ABDUL RASHID: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister's economic package, among other things, included construction of Mughal Road between Rajouri and Kashmir as the alternate highway connection in the valley with the rest of country;

(b) whether this also a related reality that the State and Central Governments are to share the expenditure on 50 : 50 ratio to accomplish to task; and

(c) if so, whether the work on the said highway has begun as the commitment of the Prime Minister is time bound, supposed to be completed within three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. This was agreed in principle.

(c) The feasibility study, detailed project preparation etc. are being carried out by the Government of J&K. It is too early to indicate any time frame for implementation of this project at this stage.

**Road Accidents**

3596. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rise in road accident deaths in the city at the end of 1999 and since the beginning of 2000;

(b) how does the road accident deaths figures in the city compare with road accident deaths in the other metropolitan cities in the country;

(c) the main causes attributed to the increasing road accident deaths in the country; and

(d) whether Government think that the existing law is not deterrent enough to prevent such incidents or the procedure for issuing licenses is too liberal?