

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7066  
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005  
DAMAGE TO SRINAGAR-JAMMU HIGHWAY  
Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether heavy snowfall, avalanches and skidding rocks have damaged Srinagar-Jammu national highway;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the damage caused to the national highway;
- (d) if so, the authority entrusted the work to repair the national highway; and
- (e) the steps taken to ensure that there is no disruption of traffic in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The highway was breached at Km 77, 85, 116.35, 129.23, and between Km 157.60 to 173.45.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) BRO, responsible for maintenance of the 392 Kilometer Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, was entrusted with restoration & repair of the Highway.
- (e) Snow Clearance Equipment is pressed into service immediately whenever required. As there can be no permanent solution to avoid occurrences of avalanches, landslides and blizzards on this road, preventive measures such as construction of retention walls, improvement in drainage systems, erection of mesh at vulnerable points are continuously taken up in consultation with the Snow and Avalanches Study Establishment (SASE), and other reputed consultancy firms.