

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2184
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
STANDARDS FIXED FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
Thomas Shri P.C.

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

- (a) the details of minimum normal standards fixed for National Highways;
- (b) the date on which road from Cochin to Madurai was declared as National Highway No.49;
- (c) whether this Highway conforms to prescribed norms/standards;
- (d) if not, the measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) the funds required for the purpose and the manner in which the funds will be allotted; and
- (f) the status of bypasses along this NH and the time by which the same are likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a): The normal standards for National Highways (NHs) are governed by the relevant codes/guidelines published and updated by Indian Roads Congress (IRC), this Ministry's specification for road and bridge works and the guidelines issued from time to time. These standards are being laid for different terrain and location i.e. rural or urban area. Some of these standards are Right Of Way (ROW), formation/carriageway width, road alignment and geometrics, design speed etc.

(b): The road from Cochin to Madurai was declared as National Highway 49 on 3.3.1989.

(c) to (e): A number of deficiencies in terms of inadequate crust, weak and narrow cross drainage structures, poor geometrics etc. have accumulated in the National Highway network including NH 49 over the years due to non availability of funds as per requirement in the past. Substantial amount would be needed to remove these deficiencies. Nevertheless, these deficiencies are being tackled in various annual plans depending upon the availability of funds. As far as, National Highways 49 is concerned, 40 improvement works amounting to Rs. 72.00 crores have been taken up in the last 5 years.

(f): There are three bypass namely Tripunithura, Muvattupuzha and Kothamangalam identified on NH-49. Out of these, land acquisition has been sanctioned for Phase-I of Tripunithura bypass. Alignment of remaining stretch of Tripunithura bypass and other two bypasses have been approved by the Ministry. State PWD have been requested to send detailed land acquisition estimate based on the approved alignment.