GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2960 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009 ALTERNATE HIGHWAY FROM JAMMU TO SRINAGAR Shariq Shri Sharief Ud Din

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

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- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to construct an alternate highway from Jammu to Srinagar to supplement the existing National Highway as the roads remain closed/damaged in winters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the existing highway to allow free flow of traffic in the said region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard besides maintaining the bio-diversity of the region?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

- (a): No, Sir.
- (b): Does not arise.

(c)&(d): The National Highway No1A from Jammu to Srinagar is to be four laned under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). This would make the existing alignment all whether by providing tunnels at various locations of this National Highway. Thus the widening to four lane including provision of tunnels would allow free flow of traffic alongwith this National Highway. The four laning project comprising of six construction packages for this reach is likely to be awarded by March, 2010 and targeted to be completed by 2015.

Proper care has been taken to make the project environment friendly by providing Environmental Mitigation Plan which shall be executed alongwith the original work thereby maintaining the bio-diversity of the region.