

Vidhan Sabha Question

Name of the Department : Home
Starred Assembly Question No : 1427
Date of Reply : 26.08.2019
Subject : Traffic Jam.
Asked by : Sh. Rakesh Singha (Theog)
Minister-in-Charge : Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sr. No.	Question	Answer
(a)	is the Government aware that since the start of the apple season, there has been traffic jam for hours together stretching up to six hours for a distance of 12 km between Kufri and Shanan on NH-22;	(a), (b), (C) & (d) information is laid on the table of the House.
(b)	has the Government identified the correct reasons for the same;	
(c)	is it a fact that teachers, employees daily commuters travelling from Shimla are unable to reach their destination in time; and	
(d)	does the Government propose to widen the Bhalku road and strengthen the bridges on the Sainj-Solan road to avoid traffic jams in the coming years?	

REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 1427 ASKED BY SHRI RAKESH SINGHA (THEOG) REGARDING "TRAFFIC JAM".

- (a) No such frequent traffic jams between Kufri and Shanan on NH-22 have occurred since the start of the apple season. However, there was a traffic jam at Dhalli, Chharabara, Kufri and Fagu on 09-08-2019 at around 2.30 AM.
- (b) Major reasons indentified by the State Police for the traffic jam mentioned at(a) supra is placed at Annexure- "A".
- (c) Though there have been such reports in the media but no specific complaint in this regard has been received by the department.
- (d) There is no proposal to widen this road as on today, However, this road has been improved/strengthened under CRF with sanction cost of Rs.600 lakh. The bridge work was completed on 26.05.2017. The bridges on Sainj-Solan road though single lane are in traffic worthy condition. Sainj – Solan section is part of In-Principal declared National Highway i.e. Chhaila-Sainj-Oachghat Sarahan and Oachghat-Solan. The widening and strengthening of road and bridges will be carried out after their final notification as National Highways, for which matter is under consideration of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

Major reasons for the traffic jam at Dhalli, Chharabra, Kufri and Fagu on 09.08.2019 at about 02:30 A.M. (Midnight):-

- (i) The portion of NH-22 between Kufri and Shanan is double lane. Reason for traffic jam is idle parking on the road.
- (ii) The Parala Bridge was declared unsafe by the HPPWD for the moving of heavy goods vehicles, whose weight is more than 10 tonnes and due to which all the heavy goods vehicles plying on this road were diverted through Chailla-Theog, Fagu and Dhalli road resulting in sudden increase of traffic.
- (iii) The process of unloading of apples from freight vehicles at Apple Market Dhalli is very slow. Even on that day, till 12:00 noon, very few apple loaded pickups/vehicles were unloaded, due to which many loaded vehicles remained in queue for hours.
- (iv) One bus and two fully loaded trallas broke down near Hassan Valley and due to narrow road at this site, the traffic was moved one way. The Trallas were fully loaded with apples and could not be removed by crane to avoid any untoward incident.

|