

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:312  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003  
ROAD WORKS IN WEST BENGAL  
AMAR ROY PRADHAN

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

- (a) the estimated cost of construction of bypass on NH-31 from Falakata to Pundibasi and a bridge over river Torsha in West Bengal and respective dates of starting the works;
- (b) the amount spent on this project as on 31.3.2003 and separate share of Central and State Governments therein;
- (c) the reasons of works not been completed on scheduled time;
- (d) the expected date when the works are likely to be completed;
- (e) whether the Government have fixed the responsibility for delay; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a) & (b) The construction of bypass on NH-31 from Falakata to Pundibari and bridge over river Torsha in West Bengal was originally sanctioned for Rs. 13.71 crores in November 1988. The work was started in November, 1991 and bridge over river Torsha was started in December, 1992. The first revised cost estimate for this whole work has been sanctioned for Rs.36.71 crores in March, 1996. The expenditure incurred on the whole project up to 31.3.2003 is Rs.35.87 crores which is entirely borne by the Central Government.

(c) to (f) There was delay of about 42 months in finalisation of tenders / award of work by the State PWD and there were further delays due to contractual problems. The work has been stopped by the contractors since 2001. The 2nd revised cost estimate received in July, 2003 for Rs.69.58 crores is under examination. After award of balance work it will take about 20 months for completion.