

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1966  
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005  
BRIDGES ON N.Hs IN ASSAM  
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) whether there is a proposal to replace the conventional Timber bridges on the National Highways in Assam with RCC bridges with standard cost effective double lane bridges;
- (b) if so, the number of such bridges to be so replaced and the estimated cost thereof and the Government's reaction for clearance thereof;
- (c) whether the design for the Chowkighat bridge on NH-52 has since been finalised; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for construction of this bridge?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 43 temporary bridges including timber bridges on various National Highways in Assam, which are yet to be taken up for replacement with 2 lane RCC bridges at an estimated cost of about Rs.106 crores. These bridges are being taken up in phased manner depending upon the availability of funds. In addition, 34 temporary bridges falling on East-West Corridor being implemented by National Highways Authority of India are expected to be replaced with 2/4 lane RCC bridges by December 2007.

(c) No, Sir. The Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati has been entrusted with carrying out model study for ascertaining the feasibility for the construction of permanent RCC bridge at Chowkighat on NH-52 in Assam. The study has since commenced in December, 2004 and is expected to be completed in a period of 19 months from the date of commencement.

(d) The construction of above bridge will depend upon the outcome of the said study.