

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6929
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
BRIDGE OVER RIVER TORSA IN WB
Barman Shri Hiten

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

- (a) whether a bridge is being constructed over River Torsa, Cooch Behar, West Bengal for the last so many years has not been completed so far;
- (b) the reasons for delay in the work;
- (c) the budgetary allocation for the current year; and
- (d) by when the bridge will be completed?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work for re-alignment of Falakata-Pundibari section of NH-31 including construction of a major bridge across river Torsa in West Bengal was originally sanctioned for Rs. 13.71 crore in November 1988. The road work was started in November 1991 and bridge over river Torsa was started in December, 1992. After original sanction, there was delay of about 42 months in finalization of tenders / award of work by the state PWD. 1st revised cost estimate for the work was sanctioned for Rs.36.71 crore in March 1996. The work was further delayed due to contractual problems and is stopped by the contractors since 2001.

(c) The budgetary allocation for the current year 2005-06 is Rs. 0.50 crore.

(d) Action has been initiated for seeking approval of the competent authority for the 2nd revised cost estimate for the project and balance work can be taken up after sanction of 2nd revised cost estimate. It may take about two years for completion of balance work after the award.