

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:287
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006
PRESENT STATUS OF GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

- (a) whether the work on the Golden Quadrilateral project is going on at a slow pace;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the progress made in the construction of the Golden Quadrilateral project so far;
- (d) the total Kilometres of road targetted to be constructed as per the revised target of 2004 and the total kms. of roads constructed by the government so far;
- (e) the target dates for completion of each sector thereof and the extent of delay suffered in respect of each sector;
- (f) the cost over-run as a result of the delay; and
- (g) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to expedite the project?

Answer

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

a) & (b) 92.5% of the Golden Quadrilateral has been completed as on 30.06.2006 and remaining work has suffered mainly due to delays in land acquisition, utilities shifting by respective State Govt's, contractual problems, litigation and excessive rains in some of the States.

c) & (d) The total length of Golden Quadrilateral is 5846 km. of which 5409 km has been completed by June 2006.

(e) No separate sector wise target dates have been fixed. However 96% Golden Quadrilateral is targeted for completion by Dec. 2006. Balance of 4% stretches are affected due to non-performance of contractor, reaward of terminated contracts and also award of Allahabad bypass in 2004 with completion date in 2007. The sector wise status of the project as on 30.06.2006 is as under:-

Sector Completion Balance

Delhi-Mumbai	100%	-
Mumbai-Chennai	94%	6%
Chennai-Kolkata	92%	8%
Delhi-Kolkata	84%	16%

(f) The expenditure of Golden Quadrilateral upto 30th June,2006 is within the total approved cost allowing for escalation. The cost overrun if any, will be known only after the completion of project.

(g) The steps taken to expedite the projects are indicated in Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (g) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 287 FOR ANSWER ON 26TH JULY, 2006 ASKED BY SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA REGARDING PRESENT STATUS OF GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT.

STEPS TAKEN TO EXPEDITE THE PROJECTS

The following steps have been taken to ensure early completion of the project:-

(a) The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultants, Project Directors, Senior Officers of NHAI. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, Secretary, Department of Road

Transport & Highways and Minister, Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.

(b) State Governments have appointed senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/environment clearances etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.

(c) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre-State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of Road Over Bridges.

(d) The procedure of issue of Land Acquisition notifications has now been simplified.

(e) To expedite the construction of Road Over Bridges, an officer of the Railways has been posted to National Highways Authority of India to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with M/s IRCON International Limited for construction of some of the Road Over Bridges.

(f) Action has been taken against non-performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in existing contracts.

(g) Steps have been taken to improve cash flow problems of contractors by granting interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractor, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount, deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) and relaxation in minimum IPC amount.