

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1164

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006

PROJECTS OF NHDP

Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan;Ramadass Prof. M;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva;Reddy Shri Magunta
Sreenivasulu;Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry;Yadav Shri Parasnath

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

- (a) the details of various projects undertaken under the National Highways Development programme (NHDP) alongwith the target set for their completion during 2006-07;
- (b) the present status of these projects;
- (c) the nature of problems affecting the expeditious meeting of targets and the cost escalation as a result thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to overcome these problems;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to relax some of the tough conditions set by the new Model Concession Agreement (MCA) affecting the process in awarding contracts and make provisions to meet the reasonable operational financial demands of the private sector engaged in construction of toll roads; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) The status of projects under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) as on 31.10.2006 is enclosed as Annexure-I. As per Annual Plan of the Authority for the year 2006-2007, 633 km pertaining to NHDP Phase-I and 650 km pertaining to NHDP Phase-II, is targeted to be 4/6 laned.

(c) The problems affecting the progress of the projects include difficulty in acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, clearance/approval of Road Over Bridges (ROB) design, poor performance of contractors etc.

(d) A list of steps taken to expedite the projects, is enclosed as Annexure-II.

(e) and (f) Government is proposing some changes in the Model Concession Agreement which are necessary to overcome operational difficulties such as relaxing pre-condition of handing over of 80% of site on or before appointed date for Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) contracts to avoid damages on part of the Government.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1164 FOR ANSWER ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2006 ASKED BY SHRI K.S. RAO, SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV, SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY, SHRI P.S. GADHAVI, SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI AND PROF. M. RAMADASS REGARDING PROJECTS OF NHDP.

STATUS OF PROEJCTS AS ON 31.10.2006

Sr. No.	NHDP Component Length(km.)	Total Length(km.)	Completed 4-lane civil works (km.)	Under Implementation Length (km)	Balance for No. of contracts award of
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1	Golden Quadrilateral	5846	5453 (93.3%)	393	35
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2	North-South & East-West	7300	840	5055	139 1306
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3 Port 380 122 237 8 21
Connectivity

4 Other NHs	945	287	638	16	20
5 NHDP-IIIA	6139	30	1090	17	5019
6 NHDP Phase-V	6500		148	2	6352
Total	27110	6732	7561	217	12718

difference in total length is because of change in length after award of works.

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1164 FOR ANSWER ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2006 ASKED BY SHRI K.S. RAO, SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV, SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY, SHRI P.S. GADHAVI, SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI AND PROF. M. RAMADASS REGARDING PROJECTS OF NHDP.

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 National Highways Authority of India. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, Secretary, Department of Road Transport & Highways and the 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 etc.

(d) The procedure of issue of Land Acquisition notifications has now been simplified. Earlier all the notifications under National Highways Act were vetted by the Ministry of Law. Recently, an amendment has been made in the Allocation of Business Rules by which these notifications are not required to be sent to the Ministry of Law. The Ministry of Law has approved the standard formats of various notifications keeping in view the similar nature of the notifications of Land Acquisition.

(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 Interim Payment Certificate (IPC) amount.