

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2172
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
DELAY IN GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT
Hasan Chaudhary Munawwar;Jai Prakash Shri

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

- (a) whether the work on Golden Quadrilateral Project is not progressing as per the time schedule as reported in the Dainik Jagran dated November 12, 2006;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has stopped the payment of fourteen projects under the Golden Quadrilateral;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to complete the projects in scheduled time?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b) 93.3 % of Golden Quadrilateral has been completed (as on 31.10.2006). There have been some delays in some contracts due to problems associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, forest and environment clearances and poor performance of some contractors etc.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Steps taken to expedite the projects are enclosed as Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2172 FOR ANSWER ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2006 ASKED BY CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN AND SHRI JAI PRAKASH [MOHANLAL GANJ] REGARDING DELAY IN GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT

STEPS TAKEN FOR EARLY COMPLETION OF THE PROJECTS

- a. The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of NHAI. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHAI, 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 NHDP 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 ROBs .
- d. The procedure of issue of Land Acquisition notifications has now been simplified. Earlier all the notifications under NH 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 ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHAI to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. MOU has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs.
- 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.