

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:227

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007

DELAY IN COMPLETION OF NHDPs

Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether several National Highways Development Projects are running behind their respective scheduled time of completion ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;
- (c) the cost escalation as a result thereof; and
- (d) the concrete measures taken by the Government to expedite completion of these projects within the scheduled time?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING,ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 227 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH AUGUST, 2007 ASKED BY SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY AND SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR REGARDING DELAY IN COMPLETION OF NHDPs.

(a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has completed about 96 % of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) as on date. The balance work has not been completed because of various reasons such as rescinding and reawarding of the contracts of non-performing contractors, land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment/ forest /Railways clearances etc.

As regards North South & East West corridors, four laning has been completed in 1390 km and is in progress in 4931 kms. Contracts for 821 km remain to be awarded. National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase II is likely to be substantially completed by December, 2009. As regards NHDP Phase III and Phase V are concerned, these projects are at initial phase of implementation and likely to be completed by December, 2013 and December, 2012 respectively. Implementation of NHDP Phase VI is yet to be started.

(c) The expenditure on NHDP is within the total approved cost allowing for escalation.The cost overrun if any, will be known after the completion of project.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to expedite completion of projects are given at Annexure.

**ANNEXURE**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 227 FOR ANSWER ON 29TH AUGUST, 2007 ASKED BY SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY AND SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR REGARDING DELAY IN COMPLETION OF NHDPs.

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 Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of NHAI.Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, National Highways Authority of India (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 National Highways Development Project (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 Road Over Bridges etc.

(d) The procedure for 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 NHAI to coordinate with Ministry

of Railways. Memorandum of Understanding has also 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 amount.