

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3628
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
IMPROVEMENT OF N.H. - 34
Acharia Shri Basudeb

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken up road improvement work between Kolkata and Dalmola section of NH-34;
- (b) whether NH-34 is creating link between Kolkata and North-Eastern States and parts of Bihar;
- (c) whether the Government has received proposal from the Government of West Bengal for improvement of the said road on the same line as adopted in NHDP projects;
- (d) whether the Government of WB also sent proposal for handing over the improvement work to NHA; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) NH-34 from Barasat (km 31) to Raiganj (km 398) is being improved through funding from Asian Development Bank (ADB) under the West Bengal Corridor Development Project by providing 1.5 meter paved shoulders, strengthening of existing pavement and bridges, and four-laning in urban stretches. The project length of 367 km. has been divided into three packages as follows:

Package 'A': From Barasat (km 31) to Baharampur (km 193)
Package 'B': From Baharampur (km 193) to Farakka (km 297)
Package 'C': From Farakka (km 297) to Raiganj (km 398)

Three Project Implementation Units (PIUs) have been set up at Barasat, Baharampur and Malda. The Project Directors, Engineers and Account Officers for these PIUs have been deputed by the Government of West Bengal. The progress of works is annexed.

The Raiganj – Dalkhola stretch of NH-34 has been taken up by the ADB under the sub-regional transport connectivity project for feasibility study. This could be taken up subsequently under ADB loan funding, if found feasible.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Request has been received from the Government of West Bengal to extend the improvement works of NH-34 from Raiganj to Dalkhola, to widen the road to a four-lane facility and handing over the improvement works to National Highways Authority of India.

Identification of the stretch of NH-34 from Barasat to Raiganj and capacity augmentation of this corridor by providing paved shoulders on both sides of the carriageway has been done by ADB after a detailed study and discussions with all concerned departments. Since the ADB loan has already commenced, PIUs have been set up and the consultancy works for 2 packages have already been awarded, it would not be feasible to change the scope of the project at this stage and to entrust the reach to NHA. Ministry has already conveyed to the Government of West Bengal on the 1st July 2004 that it would not be feasible to change the scope of the project at this stage.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3628 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND DECEMBER, 2004 ASKED BY SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA REGARDING IMPROVEMENT OF N.H. 34.

Progress of works under West Bengal Corridor Development Project

Package A:

(i) Consultancy Work: The contract for preparation of Detail Project Report (DPR) and Construction Supervision has been awarded to M/s ICT & M/s Roughton (JV). Preparation of DPR is in progress.

(ii) Civil Work: Pre-qualification applications have been received and are under process.

Package B:

(i) Consultancy Work: The supervision consultant for Package B has been finalized.

(ii) Civil Work: This package is to be implemented on design & build basis. Technical & financial bids have been received. Technical bids have been evaluated and recently approved by the ADB.

Package C:

(i) Consultancy Work: The contract for preparation of Detail Project Report (DPR) and Construction Supervision has been awarded to M/s Nippon Koei Co. Ltd. in association with Louis Berger Group Inc. and Sheladia Associates & Consultants (India) Pvt. Ltd. Preparation of DPR is in progress.

(ii) Civil Work: Pre-qualification applications have been received and are under process.