

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:8
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010
STATUS OF ROAD PROJECTS
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) whether the World Bank has made some observations in regard to the delay in the execution of road projects funded by them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the action proposed to be taken in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up Road Appellate Tribunal and a Sector Regulator; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other steps proposed to be taken to augment skilled manpower and modernisation of technology and equipments in the road sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 8 FOR ANSWER ON 23RD FEBRUARY, 2010 ASKED BY SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY REGARDING STATUS OF ROAD PROJECTS

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. World Bank has expressed its concern over the slow progress in four packages from Uttar Pradesh / Bihar Border to Muzaffarpur on NH-28 in the State of Bihar and one package from Ayodhya to Gorakhpur on NH-28 in the state of Uttar Pradesh under World Bank aided Lucknow-Muzaffarpur National Highway Project (LMNHP). The observations of the World Bank were mainly relating to poor performance of contractors and inadequate safety arrangements at site.

(c) A detailed time bound action plan was drawn up after discussions with World Bank to adequately address the concerns of the World Bank and enable early completion of the project including restructuring of the loan de-linking four packages located in Bihar.

(d) & (e) There is no proposal at present to set up Road Appellate Tribunal and a Sector Regulator. However, the Government is already seized of the various issues relating to roads sector including capacity building. The National Institute for Training of Highway Engineers (NITHE), under the aegis of this Ministry has trained over 17,985 Highway Engineers since 2001. Further contractors involved in externally aided World Bank and Asian Development Bank projects are given exemption on excise / custom duties for import of modern equipment in road construction.