

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:67  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010  
EAST WEST CORRIDOR  
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

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

- (a) the scheduled target for completion of the four laning of the East-West Corridor;
- (b) the total length of such highways completed/not completed, the cost of construction and the prescribed time limit originally conceived;
- (c) whether the construction/development has been delayed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the construction of bridges including Koshi Mahasetu, Kamla Setu near Jhanjharpur on NH-57 in Bihar stretch of the said Highway is also going on at a slow pace and the quality of roads compromised with; and
- (f) if so, the technical evaluation and assessment of the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) & (b) 4/6 laning of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase II comprising of North South & East West Corridor and other projects was approved by the Cabinet in December, 2003 at an estimated cost of Rs. 34,339 crores. The project was originally scheduled for completion by Decemb, 2007. Out of total length of 3429 kms of East West Corridor, 4-laning has been completed for 2223 kms and 974 kms are under implementation. Projects for a balance length of 232 kms are yet to be awarded. The East West Corridor is targeted for substantial completion by December, 2010.

(c) & (d) The construction of 58 projects under implementation has been delayed mainly due to problems associated with land acquisition, shifting of utilities, obtaining environment and forest clearance, approval for Road Over Bridges, poor performance of some contractors due to cash flow constraints and other reasons, law and order problems in some states etc.

(e) & (f) The overall pace of construction of bridges on NH-57 is satisfactory. Work on Kosi Mahasetu, about 2 km long, is expected to be completed by June 2011. There is some delay in the construction of Kamla Setu near Jhanjharpur on NH-57 and the contractor has been instructed to expedite the progress by mobilizing extra resources at site. While work on most of the bridges on NH-57 will be completed by June 2010, work on Kamla bridge is targeted for completion by June 2011. All NHDP works undertaken are as per Indian Roads Congress (IRC) codal provisions / Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MORT&H) specifications and there is no compromise in quality of the roads.