

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5106

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010

PROJECTS UNDER NHDP

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

- (a) the number of projects being run in the country under the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP);
- (b) whether a number of those projects are witnessing a time overrun;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the extent of cost overrun in the said projects due to delay in their completion;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the timely completion of these projects;
- (f) whether the NHAI has failed to award a single contract for construction of 5000 kms of NHs cleared under the NHDP Phase IV; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the additional financial burden on the Government due to delay in award of the said contracts?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) 210 National Highway Development Projects (NHDP) are currently under implementation. Projects have 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 some other reasons such as law & order problems in some states. Details of NHDP projects under implementation which are delayed alongwith time overrun are enclosed as Annex.

(d) The Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) contracts provide for variation and payment of escalation including escalation on extended completion period, where extension of time is granted due to delays not attributable to the contractors.

(e) In order to expedite implementation of projects regional offices have been set up by NHAI headed by Chief General Managers. Adequate powers have been delegated to the Chief General Managers who will monitor land acquisition matters as well as implementation of projects. Special land acquisition units are also being set up to expedite land acquisition. State Governments have been requested to appoint Chief Secretaries of State as Nodal officers for NHDP projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at HQ as well as field units for timely completion of the projects.

(f) & (g) NHDP projects under Phase IV are at an initial stage of implementation and feasibility study has been awarded for all projects in a total length of about 5000 km.