

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5119

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010

PROGRESS OF ROAD PROJECTS

Jindal Shri Naveen;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Semmalai Shri S. ;Sharma Shri Jagdish;Singh Chaudhary Lal;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Government/National Highways Authority of India has conducted any review of the road projects which are running behind schedule in the various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including cost escalation due to such delay and the revised schedule fixed for the said projects;
- (c) whether the Government had convened any meeting with the road developers whose projects are running behind schedule;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the reasons put forward by them for the delay and the instructions issued in this regard;
- (e) the number of road developers declared as non performers during the last one year; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken to ensure timely completion of Highway projects including length of various roads constructed out of the targets set till date?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Review of projects under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) is an ongoing process and such reviews are conducted on regular basis at the project sites and Regional Offices as well as Headquarter of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). As regards cost overrun, 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. Delayed projects under NHDP Phase I & Phase II are scheduled to be substantially completed by December, 2010. NHDP Phase III projects are targeted for completion by December, 2013. NHDP Phase IV, V, VI and VII projects are generally at initial stage of implementation.

(c) & (d) A meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport & Highways at NHAI, HQ on 21.01.2010 in which projects of 15 selected contractors were reviewed. This review was also part of the ongoing review process and was aimed at conveying to the contractors the emphasis that is being laid on accelerating the pace of implementation of projects. All the contractors agreed to expedite the pace of construction of their projects.

(e) During the last one year, one road developer was declared as non-performer.

(f) 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.