

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:26
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
TARGETS FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) whether the Government/National Highways Authority of India have been able to achieve the targets of constructing 20 kilometres of roads/highway per day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the current rate of road construction achieved in the country;
- (c) whether the Planning Commission has proposed for a review of the said targets in view of resource constraints;
- (d) if so, the details and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of the constraints being faced in accelerating road construction including shortage of manpower, dearth of fiscal resources and the steps being taken to fast track the pace of road/highway development in the country?

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. 26 FOR ANSWER ON 27TH JULY, 2010 ASKED BY DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK AND SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH REGARDING TARGETS FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION

(a) & (b) The Governmen/National Highways Authority of India (NHA) have completed construction of National Highways for a length of 5038 km i.e. 13.80 km per day during 2009-2010. In order to meet the target of constructing 20 km of Highways per day it is essential that at any given point of time approximately 20,000 km of works is under way. To achieve that target the Government has approved plan for award of contracts for 23,744 km upto 2010-2011 under Work Plan-I and Work Plan-II. So far works in a total length of 9030 km have been awarded.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. The Planning Commission has not proposed any review of targets on account of resource constraints.

(e) The constraints being faced are land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, approval for Road Over Bridges as well as shortage of skilled / semi-skilled manpower & economic slowdown. In order to revamp National Highways Development Projects and expedite award of projects, the Government implemented the recommendations of B.K. Chaturvedi Committee report wherein a number of measures suggested relating to changes in bidding process, documentation, mode of delivery, revised financing plans etc. These measures are expected to generate increased investor's interest. In order to expedite implementation of projects, regional offices have been set up by NHA headed by Chief General Managers. 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 set up to expedite land acquisition. State Governments have been requested to appoint Chief Secretaries as Nodal officers to expedite NHDP projects by removing bottlenecks if any. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at Head Quarter as well as field units.