

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3310  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009  
PERFORMANCE OF NHDP  
Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) whether the performance of the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) is unsatisfactory and the pace of construction of roads is slow;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any irregularity in the construction of roads has come to the notice of the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government thereon;
- (e) the loss incurred on account of slow pace of construction of works; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the measures adopted to speed up construction of quality roads?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. There have been some delays in completion of projects due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, obtaining forest / environment clearances, poor performance of some contractors, law & order problems in some States, etc. Slowdown in the process of award of projects was due to inability of the developers to raise necessary finance on account of prevailing economic downturn.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Escalations due to delay are paid as per contract provision. In case the project is delayed due to reasons attributable to the Contractor, liquidated damages are imposed and no escalation is paid. Escalations are paid only in case where the delay is beyond the control of the Contractor. The overall escalation and time overrun can only be estimated after completion of the projects.
- (f) In order to expedite the implementation, progress of the ongoing projects is closely monitored by Project Implementation Units of NHAJ assisted by Supervision / Independent Consultants. Meetings have been held on periodic basis both at sites as well as at NHAJ Headquarters to review progress and concerted efforts are being made to expedite land acquisition procedure. Projects are being restructured to improve viability.