

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:340

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010

DELAY IN COMPLETION OF NH PROJECTS

Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

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

- (a) whether the construction of National Highways and other NH projects being implemented under various phases of the National Highway Development Programme are running behind schedule;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the extent of delay and the cost escalation due to such delays, project-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the factors responsible for the delay and cost overruns;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to minimise such delays and for expeditious completion of all projects of the National Highways Authority of India?

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.340 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17-08-2010 ASKED BY SHRI N. CHALUVARAYA SWAMY AND SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH REGARDING DELAY IN COMPLETION OF NH PROJECTS.

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. One hundred and thirty seven projects implemented by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and ninety eight projects of National Highways implemented by various State Public Works Departments (PWDs) & Border Roads Organization(BRO) have been delayed. State-wise and project-wise details are annexed. These projects are at various stages of implementation and hence, actual time & cost over-run can be ascertained only after completion of the projects.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The delays have occurred due to various reasons such as delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, obtaining environment, forest clearances and railway approvals, poor performance of contractors and law & order problems in some States.

(e): The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has taken several steps to minimize the delays in completion of all its projects by setting up Regional Offices headed by Chief General Managers with adequate delegation of powers, setting up of special land acquisition units, setting up of High Powered Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretaries of State Governments to resolve the bottlenecks relating to shifting of utilities, land acquisition issues, etc. Further, the delayed projects are closely monitored and periodically reviewed at the Headquarter as well as the field units for expeditious completion.