

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1159

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

HIGHWAY PROJECTS

Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) the year-wise details of highways projects earmarked for implementation vis-à-vis actual implementation in the State of West Bengal from 2005-06 to 2009-10;
- (b) whether the Government is seized of deterioration in existing highways networks in West Bengal especially in hilly areas which is aggravated due to movement of heavy vehicles;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of special attention, if any, given to address this problem?

Answer

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

(a): The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the Country. State roads come within the purview of the respective State Government. However, works for improvement of State roads are also approved by the Ministry as per Central Road Fund (State Roads) Rules 2007, on the basis of recommendation of State Government.

Implementation of projects under NHDP are done by NHA. Such projects are not earmarked for implementation, year-wise, rather these are awarded on the basis of inter-se priority, viability and response of bidders. In West Bengal, projects under three packages in the year 2005-06, one package in the year 2006-07 and three packages in the year 2009-10 were awarded by NHA. All the projects are under implementation.

Other National Highway projects falling on the stretch entrusted with State Government are implemented by respective State Governments. In West Bengal, a total of 104 National Highway works with an aggregate amount of Rs.795.57 crore were sanctioned from the year 2005-2006 to 2009-10 out of Budgetary Provisions of this Ministry. A total 21 number of State road works with aggregate amount of Rs.448.80 crore were under Central Roads Fund Scheme. Year-wise details of the projects are annexed. 55 out of 104 number of National Highway works, and 7 out of 21 Central Road Fund (CRF) Works, have been completed so far. Balance works are under implementation.

(b) to (d): There have been damages on National Highways located in West Bengal during the rainy season, particularly in northern West Bengal due to heavy rainfall. In the northern hilly areas of West Bengal, apart from normal damages of pavements in the form of potholes, depressions, settlements, erosion of berms, etc. a landslide on NH-55 near Paglajhora and settlement and erosion of road embankment in km 598 of NH-31 have taken place. Since the length of the road stretch affected is 450 m, for which major restoration is required, the traffic has been diverted to alternative route.