

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1288
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
DELAY IN EXECUTION OF ROAD PROJECTS
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether NHAI is facing problems of manpower crunch which has resulted in cost overrun and delay in the execution of projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether NHAI has taken any steps in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): No, Madam. However, in pursuance of the Government decision, restructuring of NHAI has been done to enhance its institutional capacity and manpower strength by creating specialized cells for Project Appraisal, Planning and Quality Assurance, Standardization and Research and Development, Legal and Arbitration matters, Land Acquisition, Road Safety, Contract Management and Financial Management. Further following steps have been taken to expedite and implement the projects in timely manner and to avoid any cost overrun and delay in execution of projects.

(i) The two posts of Member (Project), and one each of Member (Technical), Member (A) and Member (Finance) have been filled up in accordance with the Search-cum-Selection Committee procedure as laid down in the NHAI (the term of office and conditions of Service of Members) amendment Rule 2009 notified on 24-07-2009 and 30-10-2009.

(ii) Twenty Six additional posts of Chief General Manager (CGM) have been created Twenty Two posts of CGMs have been filled up/appointment orders issued:

Appointment for the post of Financial Analyst (CGM level) has been made

The Contract Management Specialist has been selected. CGM (Legal) has been appointed.

5 Consultants having expertise in highways / bridges and legal field have been appointed.

Regulation for the posts of GM (Transport Economist) and GM (Transport Planning) notified on 25-11-09.

(iii) NHAI has also put in place a retention plan for key personnel to ensure organizational knowledge management.

(iv) CGMs submit a monthly report to the NHAI Board on acceptance of various Detailed Project Report (DPRs) by the Committee headed by each of them.

(v) NHAI is working in close coordination with the State Governments. The State Governments are involved as partner institutions for expediting the implementation of projects. Twenty four State Governments/Union Territories have signed an umbrella State Support Agreement.

(vi) The NHAI Works Manual containing the guidelines and other relevant instructions covering the various topics of project preparation, contract management, Consultancy services, Corridor Management, land acquisition, environment and forest clearance and dispute resolution mechanism etc. and Quality Assurance Manual have been prepared and published for proper administration of the contracts by NHAI.

(vii) Knowledge Management System is being set up as part of ERP implementation of NHAI.

(viii) NHAI has opened 12 Regional Offices headed by a CGM each for coordination and facilitation with State Government Authorities. Special Land Acquisition unit have also been set up at state level to expedite and resolve the Land acquisition bottlenecks. Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary of the State Govt./ Union Territories have been

set up in the State's for coordination and expeditious clearances for National Highway Projects. Six Zonal offices have also been set up headed by an Executive Directors of NHA. For exercising the general superintendence and control over the Regional offices, to review and monitor the pre construction activities, progress of projects, performance, General administration Finance and it related matters in regional offices.

(e): Does not arise.