

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2075  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010  
SETTING UP OF ZONAL OFFICES  
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) the extent to which creation of six zonal offices in the country is likely to speed up work under the NHDP and other projects;
- (b) the role of the regional offices in view of setting up of zonal offices;
- (c) whether there are any plans under NHDP to open up offices for land acquisition in various States so as to fast track the construction of highways and achieve the target of constructing 20 kms. Per day; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b): In order to speed up the implementation of projects mandated to NHAI by the Government and for ensuring better and closer liaison with the State Governments to expedite pre-construction activities of the projects, it has been decided to establish six Zonal Offices headed by Executive Directors at Bhopal, Bangalore, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lucknow and Guwahati.

The Zonal offices shall look after the administrative and pre-construction activities related to projects and the Regional Offices shall look after the construction related technical aspects of the projects.

(c) and (d): No, Sir. However, State Governments have been requested to constitute dedicated Special Land Acquisition Units (SLAUs) for acquisition of land for NHDP projects. Manpower for the SLAUs is to be provided by the respective State Governments.