

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3282
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010
IRREGULARITIES IN NHA
Jeyadural Shri S. R.

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

- (a) whether the CBI has carried out raids at the residential and official premises of the officials of National Highway Authority of India in connection with award of contracts and alleged corruption charges;
- (b) if so, the details of such raids conducted during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action against the erring officials including granting sanction for their prosecution;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has taken steps to curb misuse of power and corruption as per the Central Vigilance Commission Manual/Guidelines and Regulations of the NHA;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of officers who are facing departmental enquiries for violating NHA regulations or CVC guidelines?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. In a few cases registered by various Branches of CBI and which are under investigation by them searches have been conducted by the agency at the residential and office premises of NHA officials. As per available information from NHA, details of the cases registered by CBI during the last three years, and the current year, year-wise are as under:

2007 - NIL

2008 - 03 (one case has since been closed by CBI)

2009 - 03

2010 - 02

(c) & (d) NHA has informed that on receipt of information about registration of such cases/raids/arrests made, wherever applicable, concerned officers have been repatriated to their parent departments. One officer who was repatriated by NHA to Ministry of Road Transport & Highways is under suspension. Two requests were received by NHA for sanction for prosecution. Since the officers had been repatriated, NHA advised CBI to correspond with their parent Departments for sanction for prosecution. The Ministry has not received any request for sanction for prosecution from CBI.

(e) & (f) NHA has already taken action to curb the misuse of power in accordance with the guidelines and directives of CVC by adoption of use of leveraging technology. Concrete efforts are also being made to adopt and implement Integrity Pact as per advice of CVC.

From preventive vigilance point of view, a proposal for augmenting the strength of the Vigilance Division of NHA by creating more posts in the rank of Managers and DGMs is under process in NHA.

Surprise inspections are also being conducted by the Vigilance Division of NHAJ on the various aspects of working of NHAJ including project works/CTE type inspections.

From the punitive vigilance point of view, all complaints received in vigilance division of NHAJ are promptly looked into and necessary action is taken thereon based on the investigation by NHAJ.

(g) 15 officers are facing departmental enquiries for violating NHAJ regulations or CVC guidelines.