

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3399

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010

CONSTRAINTS IN CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Lal Shri Pakauri;Patel Shri Devji;Patel Shri R.K. Singh;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has proposed review of the target for construction of National Highways in view of resource constraint;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the details of the constraints being faced in accelerating road construction including shortage of manpower, resource crunch etc.; and
- (d) the steps being taken to fast track the pace of road/highway development in the country?

Answer

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

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Since projects under National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) are being taken up predominantly in Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode, the rate of construction depends on the capacities and constraints affecting the road construction industry. The major constraints for the shortfall in accelerating road construction are delays in acquisition of land (LA), obtaining environment and forest clearances, shifting of utilities, poor performance by some contractors, delay in award of projects due to inadequate response from the bidders, inability of developers to raise necessary finance on account of economic slowdown, etc. In order to expedite implementation of projects Regional Offices have been set up by National Highways Authority of India for close monitoring of implementation of projects. Six Zonal Offices have also been created for coordination with State Government on pre construction activities. Special land acquisition units have been set up to expedite land acquisition for National Highway Development Programme projects. Projects are also periodically reviewed.