

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1708
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
IRREGULARITIES IN NHAI
Joshi Shri Mahesh;Yadav Shri Hukamdeo Narayan

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

- (a) whether there are reports of irregularities in the awarding of projects in National Highway Authority of India (NHAI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been initiated in this matter;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there are reports of the connivance of officials of NHAI in such cases having been unearthed;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the erring officials; and
- (g) the details of the steps taken by the Government/NHAI to prevent such cases in future and bring transparency in the national highway awarding process?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir, Some complaints have been received in National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during the year 2010-11 wherein allegations have been leveled about irregularities in the award of projects by NHAI. CBI is investigating a case regarding alleged irregularities in the award of work relating to Nagpur-Betul section of the NH 69. Central Vigilance Commission is also conducting an inquiry under the CVC Act about alleged irregularities in the award of work relating to Chindwara-Seoni section of Madhya Pradesh.

(e) & (f) The issue of connivance of officials of NHAI is also being looked into in the investigation being conducted.

(g) NHAI projects are awarded on the basis of International Competitive Bidding which follows a transparent procedure ensuring participation of bidders at various stages of the bidding process. Besides guidelines issued by Central Vigilance Commission regarding adoption/implementation of e-tendering, leveraging technology, integrity pact etc. are under consideration for adoption/implementation.