

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2969

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011

TARGET FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Kumar Shri P.;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu;Sivasami Shri C.;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

- (a) whether the Government has achieved the target of construction of 20 kms of National Highways (NHs) per day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and NH-wise particularly in respect of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the details of funds allocated/sanctioned/utilised for the same during the said period, State-wise and NH-wise;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to decentralise NHAI so as to ensure effective supervision and timely implementation of NHs projects; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) No, Madam. Target of 20 km/day for construction of National Highways was set in June, 2009 for the country as a whole. No State-wise and NH-wise target had been set. Shortfall in achieving the targets are mainly due to the lesser number of projects awarded in the earlier years, economic slow down and shortage of skilled/semi-skilled manpower, problems in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, approval for Road Over Bridges from Railways. In order to expedite the pace of construction the process of award of projects has been speeded up by introducing changes in Request for Qualification (RFQ)/Request for Proposals (RFP) documents/award process as recommended by Shri B K Chaturvedi Committee. In order to expedite implementation of projects, Regional Offices have been set up by NHAI each headed by Chief General Manager for close monitoring. State Governments have nominated senior officers as nodal officers for NHAI projects in their respective state. Special land acquisition units have also been set up wherever required. Projects are periodically reviewed at field and at HQs.

(d) State-wise, Project-wise allocation of fund is not made by NHAI and expenditure on projects is incurred from the overall allocation of funds to NHAI.

(e) & (f) So far 14 Regional Offices each headed by Chief General Managers have been set up by NHAI. Apart from this 6 zonal offices each to be headed by Executive Director have also been created for coordination with State Government on pre construction activities. 2 zonal offices have started functioning at Bhopal and Bangalore.