

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1294
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2011
PRIORITY STATUS TO DEVELOPMENT OF ROADS AND HIGHWAYS
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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has accorded priority status to development of roads and highways in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of target fixed and achieved for construction of roads during 2010-11; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to speed up the process?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) and the roads other than NHs are responsibility of the concerned State Governments, etc. Apart from this, the Ministry also allocates funds to the States for development of State Roads under the Central Road Fund (CRF) and Economic Importance (EI) & Inter-State Connectivity (ISC) schemes as per the provisions of the CRF Act, 2000 amended by the Finance Act, 2005.

The development of NHs is a continuous process and the works are, accordingly, taken up based on the traffic density, inter-se priority and availability of funds. However, about 32,754 km length of NHs is programmed to be developed to 4 or more lane NH standards under various phases of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP). Also NHDP Phase-IVA includes development of about 5,000 km length of NHs primarily to 2-lane NH standards. Other approved major programmes include development of about 3,513 km length of NHs to primarily 2-lane NH standards under Phase A of the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in the North East (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package, development of 1,126 km length of NHs to 2-lane NH standards under Special Programme for development of roads in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas and Special Programme for development of NHs to 2-lane NH standards following Corridor Development Approach in a total length of about 2,177 km. Besides these programmes, development works on NHs including widening of NHs are also taken up under National Highway (Original) [NH(O)] under Annual Plan.

(c) and (d) The details of target fixed and achieved for the development of NHs during the year 2010-11 are given below:

Sl. No.	Category	2010-11	
		Target	Achievement
I.	Development of NHs under NH(O)		
1.	Construction of missing links (km)	2.6	0.1
2.	Widening to 2-lanes (km)	1,117	1,042
3.	Strengthening of existing weak pavements (km)	1,213	1,016
4.	Improvement of Riding Quality (km)	2,307	2,026
5.	Widening to 4-lanes (km)	138	99
6.	Construction of bypasses (No.)	15	3
7.	Construction / Rehabilitation of Bridges / Railway Over Bridges (ROBs) / Railway Under Bridges (RUBs) (No.)	187	103

II. National Highways Development Project (NHDP)

1. Widening to 4/6 lanes alongwith Strengthening (km) 2,500 1,784
2. Construction of Bypasses (No.) 12 5

III. Others Programmes

1. Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in the North East (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package (km) 366 146
2. Special Programme for development of Roads in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas (km) 250 251

The various measures taken for expeditious implementation of the National Highway projects include regular monitoring at various levels, appointment of nodal officer in each State for coordinating land acquisition, shifting of utilities and obtaining various clearances, simplification of process of issue of notification for land acquisition, grant of advances to the contractors and punitive action against non-performing contractors, etc.