

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:243
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011
LAND ACQUISITION FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether land acquisition is one of the major factors contributing to the delay in the implementation of the National Highways projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of projects delayed, cases pending in courts on account of land acquisition during the last three years;
- (c) whether the proposed Land Acquisition Law is expected to push up the costs for the National Highways; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and corrective action proposed to be taken in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. C.P. JOSHI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 243 FOR ANSWER ON 12-12-2011 ASKED BY SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE AND DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK REGARDING LAND ACQUISITION FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS.

(a) & (b) Land acquisition is one of the factors contributing to delay in implementation of some projects under NHDP. Delay occurs due to multiple reasons which overlap with others such as poor performance of contractor, utility shifting, forest clearance and land acquisition.

Out of 226 projects under implementation by NHAI, 58 projects are currently delayed due to multiple reasons including land acquisition. State wise list of the projects is enclosed at Annexure.

As per Section 4 of the National Highways Act, 1956, all national highways shall vest with the Union and the land vests with the Central Government after notification under Section 3D of the Act. As per section 3D (4), such notification shall not be called in question in any court or by any other authority. However, court cases are filed against the awards given by arbitrator and policy issues. On account of this, 1609 court cases are pending in various courts.

(c) and (d) The Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011 is before the Standing Committee of the Parliament. Hence, the details of increase of cost of land acquisition cannot be estimated.