

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:341
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
REVIEW OF FUNCTIONING OF HIGHWAYS
Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to review the functioning of the Highways in view of the slow pace of work on the construction of roads;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether awarding work to private contractors is presently restricted to a certain number of projects that can be given only to a particular contractor;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the norms laid down for the purpose;
- (e) whether these norms are being followed in awarding works; and
- (f) the details of the schemes being worked out to ensure the completion of road construction work in a time bound manner?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI R. P.N. SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir,Review of progress of development of Highways is an ongoing process.During the process of review, various constraints in implementation are identified and necessary steps are taken for resolution of the issues so as to ensure timely implementation of the projects.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (e) Does not arise.

(f) The Steps taken by the Government to ensure timely completion of road construction are enclosed as Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 341 FOR ANSWER ON 07.07.2009 ASKED BY SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR REGARDING REVIEW OF FUNCTIONING OF HIGHWAYWS.

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR EARLY COMPLETION ON THE PROJECT

a. The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of NHAI. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHAI, Secretary, Department of Road Transport & Highways.

b. State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the NHDP such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest / pollution / environment clearances etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.

c. A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre-State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting,environment approvals,clearance of ROBs.

d. The procedure of issue of Land Acquisition notifications has been simplified.Earlier all the notification under NH Act were vetted by the Ministry of Law.Recently,an amendment has been made in the Allocation of Business Rules by which these notifications are not required to be sent to the Ministry of Law. The Ministry of Law has approved the standard formats of various notifications keeping in view the similar nature of the notifications of Land Acquisition.

e. To expedite the construction of ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHAI to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. MOU has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs.

f. Action has been taken against non performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the

performance in existing contracts.