

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:347
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012
ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR HIGHWAYS PROJECTS
De Dr. Ratna;Patel Shri Bal Kumar

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

- (a) the details of the land acquired by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for National Highways Development Projects during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the details of compensation worked out and actually paid during the said period;
- (c) whether a number of projects have come to a standstill due to the delay in land acquisition during the said period; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government 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. 347 FOR ANSWER ON 30.4.2012 ASKED BY SHRI BAL KUMAR PATEL AND DR. RATNA DE(NAG) REGARDING ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR HIGHWAYS PROJECTS.

(a) and (b) : The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has acquired 6224, 8577 and 9801 hactares of land during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively for the National Highways Development Projects. The year-wise and State-wise details are at Annexure I. The land is acquired as per the provisions of National Highways Act, 1956. The compensation for acquisition of land is determined under provisions of the said Act. The Competent Authority determines the compensation on the basis of market value of land on the date of publication of the notification under section 3A of the said Act; the damage sustained by the interested person at the time of taking possession of the land, by reason of severing of the land from other land; reasonable expenses incurred due to change in residence of the person interested as a result of the acquisition, etc. The amount released for payment of compensation during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 was Rs. 1420 crores, Rs. 5246 crores and Rs. 4507 crores respectively.

(c) and (d): Total sixteen projects in the States of Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are facing delays in land acquisition. The State-wise details are at Annexure-II. To overcome the problem of delay in land acquisition, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has initiated various measures which include, taking up the issue with the higher authorities of the State Governments for expediting the land acquisition, regular meetings at higher levels for speeding up the acquisition of land, constitution of High Powered Committee under the Chief Secretary of the State, setting up of Regional Offices headed by Chief General Manager (CGM) level officers, decentralizing the financial powers, strengthening the infrastructure and manpower resources for the Competent Authority Land Acquisition and Project Implementation Units of NHAI and setting up of 150 Special Land Acquisition Units in the States.