

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:614

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR ROAD PROJECTS

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

- (a) the details of road projects in the country including projects under Public Private Partnership (PPP) awaiting environmental clearance during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of funds stuck in these projects along with the time and cost escalations caused due to delays in granting clearances to these projects;
- (c) whether the project of Tattapani-Salapar has also been awaiting environmental clearance for the last three decades;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Government to remove the hurdles in the implementation of these projects and to recover their escalated cost; and
- (e) the time by which all these projects are likely to be granted clearances?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA)

(a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The responsibility for development and maintenance of other roads rests with the concerned State Governments and other agencies. Generally projects are started only after obtaining environment clearance. Majority of the projects including projects under Public Private Partnership (PPP) are being taken up on Built-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis, which does not involve any cost escalation.

A total of 307 cases including cases with Border Roads Organization (BRO) are pending for environmental and forest clearances. The State-wise details of pending clearances cases are annexed.

(c) and (d) The road section Tattapani-Salapar is not a part of NH and accordingly does not come under purview of this Ministry.

(e) The submission of proposal for environmental clearances and their approval by the Competent Authorities concerned is a continuous process. At this stage, it is not possible to specify any timeframe by which these pending 307 cases including the cases with BRO would be granted clearances as these proposals are pending with various agencies of the Central / State Governments.