

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4439
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013
EASTWEST CORRIDOR PROJECT
Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the work on East-West Corridor from Ghoshpukur to Salsala Barivia Jalpaiguri-Mayanaguri-Falakata-Alipurduar along NH-31 has been delayed;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the present status of the project; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of this project?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The 4 laning work of East-West Corridor from Ghoshpukur to Salsalabarivia Jalpaiguri-Maynaguri-Falakata-Alipurduar along NH-31-D has been delayed due to realignment of the project as the original alignment of East-West Corridor on NH-31/31-C was passing through the Wild Life areas namely Mahananda Wild Life Sanctuary, Jaldapara Wild Life Sanctuary, Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve. On the advice of Ministry of Environment & Forests, the alignment was changed southward on NH-31-D and further realignment at Bagdogra market area on the request of the State Government of West Bengal. The Preparation of fresh Detailed Project Report and acquisition of land took time. The project is presently at bidding stage. Close monitoring and follow up to expedite the land acquisition, utility shifting and forest cutting is being done by the National Highways Authority of India.