

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2189

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013

WIDENING OF HIGHWAYS

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

(a) the total length of two/four/six and eight-lane National Highways (NHs) in the country, State-wise;

(b) the State-wise details of the targets fixed and achieved by the Government for conversion of National Highways into two/four/six and eight-lane especially in the State of Kerala and Jharkhand during the last three years and the current years along with the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether the Government has achieved the above targets and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with their present status; and

(d) whether the Government/National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has taken any decision to stop major repair works of the National Highways in Kerala and if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) The State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of two/four/six and eight-lane National Highways (NHs) in the country are at Annexure-I.

(b) and (c) The year-wise details of targets and achievements for construction of roads including conversion of NHs into two/four/six and eight-lane during the last three years and the current year along with expenditure incurred thereon are at Annexure-II.

Shortfall in achieving the targets are mainly due to the lesser number of projects awarded in the earlier years, economic slowdown and shortage of skilled / semi-skilled manpower, problems in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, approval for Road Over Bridges (ROBs) from Railways. In order to expedite the pace of construction the process of award of projects has been speeded up by introducing changes in Request for Qualification (RFQ) / Request for Proposals (RFP) documents/award process. In order to expedite implementation of projects, Regional Offices (ROs) have been set up by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) each headed by Chief General Manager (CGM) for close monitoring. Powers have been delegated to the CGMs for expediting forest / environmental clearances and monitor land acquisition matters as well as implementation of projects. Special Land Acquisition units have also been set up to expedite land acquisition. The Chief Secretaries of State Governments have been nominated as Nodal Officer to expedite highway projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at Headquarters as well as field units.

(d) No, Madam.