

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1133
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013
EAST WEST CORRIDOR PROJECT
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

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

- (a) whether the four-lane East-West Corridor project from Saurashtra to Silchar has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the present status of the project along with the expenditure incurred thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action to complete this project within stipulated time period and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said project is likely to be completed;
- (d) whether National Highway (NH)-57 in Bihar is operational despite the fact that its construction has not been completed, which is causing road accidents in the absence of service lanes in the constructed part; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) Four laning of entire length of East - West Corridor has been completed except 195 km under implementation and 232 km balance for award. Main reasons for delays are land acquisition & forest clearance. About Rs 27,000 crore has been incurred on East - West Corridor projects.

(c) In order to expedite implementation of the Projects, Regional Offices have been set up by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) headed by Chief General Manager. Powers have been delegated to the Chief General Managers. Special land acquisition units are also set up to expedite land acquisition. Chief Secretaries of State Government have also been nominated as Nodal officers to expedite construction of highway projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at Headquarter as well as field units. Recently, the issues of delinking environmental clearance from forest clearance and exempting linear stretches from the requirement of NOC from Gram Sabha have been resolved. Reserve Bank of India has given dispensation to treat the debt due to lenders, to the extent assured by Project Authorities in terms of concession agreement, as secured loan.

(d) and (e) Four laning of NH-57 in Bihar has been completed except, Narpatganj portion. Service road in some portions has not been completed due to land acquisition problem. The matter regarding land acquisition has been taken up with the State Government.