

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:540

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013

NH PROJECTS IN RAJASTHAN

Bauri Smt. Susmita;Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Jakhar Shri Badri Ram ;Putul Kumari Smt.

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

- (a) whether the target fixed for construction of National Highway (NH) roads in the country during the current year has been reduced;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the quality of construction work on NH roads in Rajasthan is not as per the prescribed standards, if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the details of the delayed projects in the State along with the action taken for their expeditious completion?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) There is no change in the overall target for completion of National Highways (NHs). However, the target for completion of individual contracts undergo revision mainly on account of delay in pre-construction activities, environmental and forest clearance, approval for rail over bridges, law & order problem as well as shortage of skilled/ semi- skilled manpower and economic slowdown.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) There has been delays in implementation of 12 projects in the state of Rajasthan.

In order to expedite implementation of the projects, Regional Offices have been set up by National Highway Authority of India (NHA) headed by Chief General Manager with delegated powers. 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 pre- construction activities. 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. Disinvestment of 100% equity to other willing buyers has been allowed after completion of the construction and also substitution of concessionaire allowed after achievement of financial closure to salvage the languishing projects. The NHA has also constituted Negotiation / Reconciliation Settlement Committees and also High Level Expert Settlement Advisory Committee to settle the claims / disputes.