

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:561

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013

PROJECTS UNDER NHDP

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

(a) the details of the total length approved/projects taken up under various phases of National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) in the country during the last three years and the current year, phase-wise and State-wise including Karnataka and Bihar along with their present status;

(b) the details of the funds allocated and expenditure incurred on these projects under the programme during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the delayed projects and the reasons therefor along with the steps being taken by the Government to expedite completion of these projects and the time by which these are likely to be completed?

Answer

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

(a) State-wise details of projects taken up under various phases of NHDP during the last three years and current year are annexed. These projects are at various stages of completion.

(b) The allocations are not made State-wise. During the last three years and current year an expenditure amounting to Rs 1,13,000 crores has been incurred on ongoing projects by National Highway Authority of India.

(c) There has been delays in implementation of 95 projects under NHDP. The delays are due to problems such as land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environmental and forest clearance, approval for rail over bridges, law & order problem as well as shortage of skilled / semi-skilled manpower, poor performance of contractors and economic slowdown.

In order to expedite implementation of the projects, Regional Offices have been set up by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) 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 NHAI has also constituted Negotiation/ Reconciliation Settlement Committees and also High Level Expert Settlement Advisory Committee to settle the claims/disputes.