

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:102  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013  
DELAY IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS  
Mani Shri Jose K.

**Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a Government commissioned study on projects facing cost overruns has revealed that acute shortage of skills is one of the factors responsible for the inordinate delays in the major infrastructure projects;
- (b) if so, the details of the findings including the cost overruns as a result thereof;
- (c) whether as per the study, a staggering eighty per cent of the developers are unable to find skilled project managers and blue-collar workers; and
- (d) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in Reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 102 for answer on 13th August 2013.

(a) to (c): Government in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has not commissioned any study on effects of shortage of skilled manpower on infrastructure projects. However, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had given technical support to a study on 'Project Schedule and Cost Overruns' conducted by Project Management Institute (PMI) – India & KPMG in 2011-12. The study mentions that the growth of skilled and semi-skilled manpower in India has not kept pace with the growth in infrastructure projects. It has not given any statistical correlation with cost overruns on this count. The study also mentions that 79% of the respondents who were surveyed felt that the industry is currently facing a shortage of project and site managers.

(d): The problems relating to availability of skilled manpower are being addressed by various Ministries and Organisations. The issues are also reviewed and monitored at the higher levels in the Government. The steps undertaken inter-alia include:

(i) setting up of Cabinet Committee on Skill Development to provide direction and consider all policies, programmes, schemes and initiatives for skill development aimed at increasing the employability of the workforce for effectively meeting the emerging requirements of the rapidly growing economy and mapping the benefits of demographic dividend;

(ii) setting up of Cabinet Committee on Investment to review and monitor the implementation of major projects, including issues relating to clearances/approvals; and

(iii) setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.