

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1593  
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009  
DELAYED CENTRAL PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA  
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) the details of projects running behind schedule in Maharashtra as on date;
- (b) the percentage increase in the cost of these projects due to time overruns; (
- (c) the time by which each of these projects is likely to be completed; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to complete the projects expeditiously?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF COAL AND STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a),(b)&(c) As on 01.04.2009, out of 889 central sector projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation relating to 16 infrastructure sectors, there are 84 ongoing projects in the State of Maharashtra. Of these, 7 projects, in two sectors namely Petroleum & Natural Gas and Railways, are running behind schedule with respect to their original approved schedule. Cost overrun in the 7 delayed projects is reported to be Rs.6281.7 crore which works out to 181.28% of the original approved cost of Rs.3465.28 crore. Cost overruns in projects is attributed to reasons such as geological problems, change in scope, delay in land acquisition, delay in supplies and general cost escalation due to time overruns. A list of the seven delayed projects along with their anticipated date of commissioning is given in Annexure-I.

(d) The corrective steps taken by the Government to minimize cost and time over-runs in projects inter-alia include:

- (i) adoption of two-stage clearance system and stricter appraisal of projects before investment approval;
- (ii) taking up of projects for implementation only after funds have been fully tied up;
- (iii) in-depth review of projects on monthly and quarterly basis by the Government;
- (iv) follow up with the State Governments in respect of problems relating to land acquisition, rehabilitation related issues, forest clearances, infrastructure facilities, ensuring law and order at project sites, etc.
- (v) setting up of Empowered Committees in different administrative Ministries for review of departmentally executed projects;
- (vi) inter-ministerial coordination for resolving unresolved issues;
- (vii) setting up of Standing Committees in the Ministries/Departments to fix responsibility for time and cost overruns;
- (viii) appointment of nodal officers for each project with continuity of tenure; and
- (ix) issue of guidelines on standard bidding documents for adoption.