

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4137

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009

CONTRACTS FOR NSEW PROJECTS

Shanavas Shri M. I.;Yadav Shri Hukamdeo Narayan

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

- (a) whether construction work on the North-South and East-West corridor is underway;
- (b) if so, the status of awarding of contracts for the said projects alongwith the details of agencies entrusted and mode of financing, State-wise and project-wise;
- (c) whether there has been cost overrun in the said projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost of construction per kilometre and the revised costs, State-wise and project-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to avoid cost overruns?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. Total length of North-South and East-West (NS-EW) Corridor is 7142 km out of which a length of 4439 km (including partially completed stretches) has been 4- laned. A length of 2066 km (115 projects) is under implementation and 637 km is yet to be awarded. The details of projects under implementation are enclosed as Annex.

(c) & (d) Escalations due to delay are paid as per contract provisions. In case the project is delayed due to reasons attributable to the Contractor, liquidated damages are imposed and no escalation is paid. Escalations are paid only in case where the delay is beyond the control of the Contractor. The cost overrun as well as cost of construction per km can only be ascertained after completion of the entire NS-EW Corridor.

(e) In order to expedite implementation of projects regional offices have been set up by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) headed by Chief General Managers to monitor land acquisition matters as well as implementation of projects. 72 Special Land Acquisition Units (SLAUs) have also been set up in various states to expedite land acquisition. State Governments have been requested to appoint Chief Secretaries as Nodal officers for NHDP projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at Headquarters as well as field units.