GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1783
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015
SARDP-NE
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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP-NE) for the development/improvement of roads in the North-Eastern States of the country;
- (b) the details of the targets fixed and achieved so far under the said programme along with the allocation of funds made for the purpose, State-wise including Arunachal Pradesh;
- (c) whether the work on this project is going at a very slow pace; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to speed up the pace of construction work under the programme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has formulated the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East (SARDP-NE), for upgradation of 10141 km road stretchesof National Highways and State Roads in the year 2005-06. Out of 10141 km of roads included under SARDP-NE, 6418 km has been approved by the Government for implementation under Phase 'A' and the Arunachal Pradesh Package of Roads and Highways and balance 3723 km has been approved only for preparation of DPR under Phase 'B' of SARDP-NE. The details of roads included under Arunachal Pradesh Package, Phase 'A' and Phase 'B' of SARDP-NE are at Annexure-I. Targets and Allocation are not fixed State wise. However the length sanctioned and achievement year wise so far is at Annexure-II. The details of funds allocated year wise along with expenditure is at Annexure-III.

The projects are targeted for completion by March, 2017 for Phase 'A' and March, 2018 for Arunachal Pradesh Package. The pace of construction is slow due to various reasons, which are as below.

- (i) Delay in Land Acquisition
- (ii) Delay in Forest Clearance
- (iii) Extended monsoon
- (iv) Slow/poor mobilization by the Contractors
- (v) Non availability of quarries for materials.
- (vi) Departmental construction by BRO

In order to expedite road construction , Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has set up a company named as "National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation limited" (NHIDCL) on 18th July 2014 for construction/upgradation/widening of National Highways in the regions that share international boundaries with neighboring countries. The main emphasis of NHIDCL is for implementation of balance projects under SARDP-NE in NER.

Further, review meetings and monitoring of projects are being done at highest level in the Government. However, to avoid cost and time overrun, Ministry has adopted Engineering Procurement, and Construction (EPC) mode for award of new works so that works can be completed within stipulated time and cost.