

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2218
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014
NATIONAL HIGHWAYS NETWORK
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

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

- (a) the details of the National Highways (NHs) network in various States of the country, as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the number of proposals received by the Government for expansion/widening of NHs in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise along with the present status of such proposals;
- (c) the details of the hurdles that the Government has been facing in expansion/ widening of the said National Highways;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any strategy to remove such hurdles in order to clear the said National Highways proposals in a specified time frame and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the coverage of (NHs) in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

- (a) The State / Union Territory (UT)-wise details of National Highways (NHs) in the country are at Annexure-I.
 - (b) The State / UT-wise details of proposals received and sanctioned under National Highway (Original) {NH(O)} works during each of the last three year and the current year are at Annexure-II. All the sanctioned works are at various stages of progress.
 - (c) and (d) The delays in construction of NHs are attributed to various reasons such as poor performance by the contractors, land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environmental & forest clearance, approval of rail over bridges, law & order problem, as well as shortage of skilled & semi-skilled manpower and economic slowdown. The Bottom of Form
- Government has recently taken a number of initiatives to boost sentiment of investor / lender and encourage more investment in the road sector. These include formation of high level Expert Settlement Advisory Committee for one time settlement of old cases pending in the courts; to complete all pre-construction approvals prior to award of a project; streamlining the process of grant of Environment Clearances by the Ministry of Environment & Forests; facilitating exit to equity investors to unlock growth capital for utilisation in future projects and infuse fresh capital into the sector and to let Financial Institutions consider debts to the road sector as secured to the extent assured in terms of Concession Agreement. This Government has recently approved Policy for rationalisation of premium quoted by concessionaires in respect of Highways Projects wherein re-scheduling of premium has been permitted for all projects that are stressed.
- (e) Expansion of NH network is a continuous process and declaration of new NH is taken from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, inter-se priority and availability of funds.