

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2330

ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014

COMPENSATION FOR LAND

Charitra Shri Ram;Roy Prof. Saugata;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

- (a) the details of the projects awarded during the last three years and the current year without acquiring land along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the provision contained in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement with regard to payment of compensation has been causing hurdles in the construction of National Highways in the country;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor along with the action taken by the Government in consultation with the stakeholders;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase compensation to four-fold in rural areas and double in urban areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is expected to be completed?

Answer

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

(a) Projects are not awarded without initiating the process of land acquisition wherever necessary. Land acquisition is a long drawn process and starts much before the bids for a project are invited. Under the National Highways Act, land vests with the Government after notification under section 3(D) is issued. However, several steps are required to lead up to physical possession of land. Generally, land owners are reluctant to hand over possession of land unless construction activities start. As per the stipulations of the Model Concession Agreement, National Highways Authority of India is obligated to hand over 80% of land to Concessionaire on or before the appointed date and remaining 20% within 90 days.

(b) & (c) There are instances where land owners demanding enhanced compensation as compared to the amount determined by the Competent Authority for land acquisition under National Highways Act. It is leading to delay in processing of payment of compensation by the Competent Authority. The progress of the projects has been reviewed to sort out the issues related to slow progress due to land acquisition and steps are taken for close coordination with other ministries including concerned State Governments.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.