

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5282  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014  
DEVELOPMENT WORK OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS  
Patel Smt. Anupriya Singh

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

- (a) the details of the development work of National Highways under progress in the country;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the development work on the stretch of NH 7 passing through Uttar Pradesh has not been taken up by the Government in the recent past;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to undertake the development work during each of the last three years, district-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) Development of National Highways (NHs) have been taken up under National Highway Development Project (NHDP), Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North-Eastern region (SARDP-NE), Special road development programme for the areas affected with Left Wing Extremism (LWE) and National Highways Interconnectivity Improvement Programme (NHIP). Besides these programmes, development works on NHs including widening of NHs are also taken up under National Highway (Original) {NH(O)} under Annual Plan.

(b) and (c) Varanasi-Hanumanha section of NH-7 in the State of Uttar Pradesh has been identified for development to 2-lane with paved shoulders under Phase-IV of NHDP for which feasibility study has been completed.

(d) The last couple of years have not been favorable for the highway development. A no. of highway projects got delayed / stalled for various reasons. In order to expedite stalled / delayed project the 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 utilization 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 rationalization of premium quoted by concessionaires in respect of Highways Projects' wherein re-scheduling of premium has been permitted for all projects that are "stressed".