

Golden Quadrilateral stretch in Orissa

516. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN:

SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that work on the National Highways under Golden Quadrilateral project in Orissa is moving at a snail's pace and incomplete road stretches have become death traps for the commuters;

(b) whether there have been agitations in the State over this step-motherly treatment; and

(c) if so, the status of completion of all the on-going projects in the State under the above head?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Out of 444 Km of NH-5 and NH-60 on Golden Quadrilateral, 352.50 kms length is already completed. However, balance 91.50 kms could not be completed due to termination of three contracts due to poor performance of the contractor. Out of three contracts, two contracts have been re-awarded and in one contract, the matter of termination of the earlier contractor is sub-judice. However, the existing pavement of the incomplete stretches is being maintained by the NHAI in traffic-worthy condition.

(b) There have been some complaints due to damages on the road surface during rainy season, which were got repaired by the NHAI.

(c) The status of the ongoing projects in the State under the above head is as under:

Sl.No.	Stretch	Balance Length	Likely date of completion
(i)	Ichapuram-Ganjam	29.91 km	Dec, 2009
(ii)	Bhadrak-Balasore	27.08 km	December, 2010

Inland waterways

517. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa proposes to develop 1600 km inland waterways at a cost of Rs. 623 Crores to improve the economy of the coastal region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;