

- (d) if so, Government stand on the pertinent problem;
- (e) whether Government is also aware that the fishermen community have expressed their anguish and opposition to this project; and
- (f) whether Government has come forward to consider the apprehensions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (f) Central Government has no proposal for construction of elevated expressway from Marina Beach to Kottivakkam East Coast Road. However, as per information received from State Government of Tamil Nadu, the State Government have prepared a Detailed Feasibility report (DFR) for the project.

NH projects in Maharashtra

†1481. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the States where road projects of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) are going on;
- (b) the number of road projects of NHAI going on in Maharashtra;
- (c) the number of such ambitious projects running behind its time frame;
- (d) whether Government has constituted any committee to find out the reasons for delay; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken against those officers responsible for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) The road projects of National Highways Authority of India are currently going on in the States of: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

(b) and (c) Out of 27 ongoing road projects in Maharashtra, 9 projects are running behind schedule.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. In order to expedite the progress of four laning, projects are closely monitored and concerted efforts are being made to expedite land acquisition, shifting of utilities, granting interest bearing advances to contractors, etc. In order to expedite implementation of projects regional offices have been set up by NHAI headed by Chief General Managers. Powers have been delegated to the Chief General Managers who will monitor land acquisition matters as well as implementation of projects. Special land acquisition units are also set up to expedite land acquisition. State Governments have been requested to appoint Chief Secretaries of State as Nodal officers for NHDP projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at HQ as well as field units.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.