

(b) and (c) No, Sir. There have been some delays in implementation of East-West and North-South (EW-NS) corridor projects mainly due to reasons like poor performance of contractors, non-availability of environmental, forest and railway clearances, delays in land acquisition and law & order problem in some States.

(b) The EW-NS corridors are targeted for substantial completion by December 2010.

Restructuring of highway projects by NHAI

2710. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has recently restructured some highways projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main benefits that are likely to accrue from this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Highways Authority of India has restructured 47 National Highway Development Projects.

(c) Major benefits of restructuring include optimization of the project cost and increasing its viability for award on PPP mode.

Four laning of Sambalpur-Orissa-Chhattisgarh section of NH-6

2711. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved proposal of four laning of Sambalpur- Orissa- Chhattisgarh Section of NH-6 in NHDP Phase-III;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the details of the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred in this section;

(d) by when the work of this project will be started and completed; and

(e) the details of the steps taken by Government for timely completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Four-laning from Sambalpur to Orissa/Chhattisgarh Border