

Development of NHs in Tamil Nadu

3227. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the development of National Highways in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and project-wise; and

(c) the present status of each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The details of the proposal sanctioned for development of National Highways as received from Government of Tamil Nadu, under Plan funds, during last three years, alongwith their present status is as under:—

Year	Number of Projects	Sanctioned Amount (in Rs. crores)	Present Status	
			Completed	In progress
2007-08	59	134.15	58	01
2008-09	38	194.33	37	01
2009-10	31	227.37	09	22

Slow progress of NHs projects

3228. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress in implementation of highway projects of National Highways Authority of India is very slow;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to implement them within time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir, However, delay in the implementation of some of the stretches of National Highways have occurred mainly due to constraints like non-availability of forest/environmental clearances, delay in land acquisition and utility shifting, delay in obtaining railway clearances, poor performance of contractors etc. In order to expedite implementation of projects Regional Offices headed by Chief General Manager have been set up by NHAI for close monitoring of implementation of projects. 6 zonal offices headed by Executive Directors have

also been created for coordination with State Government on pre construction activities. 2 zonal offices have started functioning at Bhopal and Bangalore. Several State Governments have appointed Chief Secretaries or other Senior officers as nodal officers for NHDP projects. Projects are periodically reviewed at the field and at the Head Quarters also.

Collaboration with IRF to reduce road fatalities

3229. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to International Road Federation (IRF) a global body for promoting and advocating safe road developments, India accounts for 10 per cent of the 13 lakh road accident deaths world wide every year;

(b) if so, what initiatives Government has so far taken in collaboration with IRF to reduce rate of road fatalities in country;

(c) whether Government proposes to consider road safety measures either through any changes in the Motor Vehicles Act or through engineering measures; and

(d) the details of findings/outcome of discussion of two day global meet of 20 countries held in Delhi recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in collaboration with International Road Federation (IRF) has already undertaken a number of measures such as:—

- (i) The State Governments have been requested to extend support to IRF in promoting road safety campaign, display of hoardings, featuring of promotional films on road safety in Cinema halls as also on television, and seeking support of the print media to carry forward the road safety campaigns.
- (ii) A circular has been issued on 27th April, 2010 to all concerned to implement the desired engineering measures both on existing roads as well as in ongoing Road projects
- (iii) The Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Human Resource Development regarding incorporation of a separate chapter on Road safety in the school curriculum and to print the road signs with their meanings in front and back inside cover of all school text book for mass awareness
- (iv) The Ministry has also taken up with the Ministry of Finance to provide tax exemption to the donors of the corporate world and philanthropist individual who extend a helping hand by incurring expenditure towards Road Safety programmes.