

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) and (b) There have been reports in the media that some persons have been murdered in the last two years allegedly due to their role as RTI activists. Some of the persons who are alleged to have been so murdered include Ramdas Patil Ghadegasonkar, Babbu Singh, Amit Jethwa, Datta Patil, Vitthal Gite, Sola Ranga Rao, Arun Sawant.

(c) to (f) The framework of existing laws such as Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, etc. is considered adequate to provide for safety and security to all citizens, including RTI activists. A bill to protect persons who make public interest disclosures has already been introduced in the Parliament. As such, there is no proposal to amend the RTI Act for this purpose.

As maintenance of law and order and providing safety and security for all citizens is primarily the subject matter of State Governments, Government of India has already drawn the attention of State Governments to the reports appearing in the media about the victimization of people, who use RTI to expose corruption and irregularities in administration. The States have been requested that if any such instance comes to the notice, it should be promptly inquired into and action be taken against the offenders.

#### **Targets for construction of National Highways**

\*213. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed by Government for construction of National Highways per day;

(b) if so, the details of the targets set by Government and progress made against targets, during each of the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is not able to meet the targets;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise and project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) Target of 20 km/day for constructing National Highways was set in June, 2009 for the country as a whole. No State-wise target had been set.

(b) Details of targets and achievement for construction of National Highways during the last three years is as under :

Year	Target in km	Achievement in km
2007-08	4462	3640
2008-09	5558	4494
2009-10	5652	5042

(c ) and (d) Shortfall in achieving the targets are mainly due to problems in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, approval for Road Over Bridges from Ministry of Railways as well as shortage of skilled/semi-skilled manpower and economic slowdown.

#### **Children of Juvenile Homes**

†\*214. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that many children imprisoned in juvenile homes repeat the same crime when they come out after completing their punishment because the society does not accept them and they do not have employment and such children also develop terrorist tendencies;

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry in this regard; and

(c) whether any plan is under its consideration to secure the future of innocent young children of women prisoners behind the bars, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) There have been a few instances in some States, of children repeating the same offence after they are released from the Observation/Special Home. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act (JJ Act), which is the primary legislation for children in conflict with law, has adequate provisions for the rehabilitation and re-integration of such children and for follow up of children released on bail or after completion of probation. Observation Homes and Special Homes set up under Section 8 and 9 of JJ Act for children in conflict with law, are