

vehicles owned by any person as it would amount to infringement on one's right to own property.

20 km. of National Highway per day

410. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Highways Authority of India has since achieved the target of constructing 20 km. of National Highway per day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there have been slippages in achieving the targets;
- (d) if so, the reasons for such shortfall; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The target achieved on an average from April, 2010 to December, 2010 is 9.90 km. per day. In order to meet the target of constructing 20 km of Highways per day, it is essential that at any given point of time approximately 20,000 km. of works are under way. The pace of award of contracts is being increased to bring more projects under implementation. Since highway projects have a gestation period of 4 to 5 years from inception, the rate of completion of construction will increase only progressively.

(c) to (e) Shortfall in achieving the targets are due to problems in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, approval for Road Over Bridges as well as shortage of skilled/semi-skilled manpower and economic slowdown. In order to revamp National Highways Development Projects and to expedite award of projects, the Government implemented the recommendations of B.K. Chaturvedi Committee report, wherein a number of measures were suggested relating to changes in bidding process, documentation, mode of delivery, etc. these measures are expected to generate increased investor interest. 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 expedite forest/environment clearance and 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 Nodal officers for NHDP projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at HQ as well as field units.

Pending proposals of inter-State roads

411. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: