

in some states, delay in land acquisition etc. NHAI has begun the process of accelerating the pace of award of projects to achieve the target of construction. NHAI awarded 5,059 km in 2010-11 and 6491 km in 2011-12. Target for the award of projects by NHAI for the year 2012-13 is 8800 km. In order to expedite implementation of projects Regional Offices each headed by Chief General Managers have been set up by NHAI for close monitoring of implementation of projects. Achievement of targets is being monitored closely. Projects are periodically reviewed at field offices and at Head Quarter.

**Poor road quality in country**

3043. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that quality of roads being constructed in the country is poor and substandard;
- (b) whether any standard evaluation has been done after roads are constructed;
- (c) whether it is a fact that vehicle owners have to spend Rs. 2000 crores for getting their vehicles repaired due to pathetic roads; and
- (d) the steps the Ministry is taking to provide long lasting roads to the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) During construction and after completion of works, the necessary quality checks and tests are carried.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In order to assure the quality of National Highway (NH) works, the quality control tests and checks are carried out in accordance to the Government directives issued *vide* Ministry's Specifications for Road and Bridge Works and relevant guidelines of Indian Road Congress.

**Transparency in award of contracts**

3044. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking adequate measures to ensure transparency in the award of contracts in construction of roads and highways;