

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Financial Services, Planning Commission and the Chairman, NHAI has also been held to discuss the issues hindering the road sector programme and to examine the modalities to allow withdrawal of equity by concessionaires. Government has also taken a number of steps to minimise procedural bottlenecks and delays by resorting to extensive inter-ministerial consultations including taking the matter to the Committee of Secretaries (CoS), headed by the Cabinet Secretary. Ministry is aggressively pursuing 4000 kms. of road stretches to be developed on Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) mode (through public funding). In addition, in order to improve riding quality, approximately 3000 kms. of stretches are proposed to be bid out on an OMT (Operation, Maintenance and Transfer) basis during the current financial year. Out of this 3000 km, a length of 587 kms has already been awarded. Department of Financial Services (DFS) has also been requested by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to advice banks not to take extremely difficult position for advancing debits for financial closures. For rotation of equity capital, divestment of equity after completion of project has also been proposed. Government has also announced the setting up of Infrastructure Debt Funds (IDFs) to provide long-term, low-cost debt for infrastructure projects. The funds would allow infrastructure developer's access to domestic and offshore investors on a long-term basis. Special Land Acquisition Units (SLAUs) have been set up at State level for new stretches of national highways across the country to put the land acquisition on fast track. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has also taken up the matter with all the State Governments emphasizing the need to streamline the process of land acquisition and utility shifting etc., by constituting high level committees under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary of the respective States.

Progress of work on NH-39 and NH-53

2007. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of work in progress on NH-39 and NH-53;
- (b) the reasons for delay in works; and
- (c) the details of steps Government intends to take to complete the projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) to (c) The works on NH-39 and NH-53 are generally progressing slow mainly due to frequent Bundh and Blockades, insurgency problem and short working season. Regular progress reviews are being taken by senior officers of the Ministry & State Governments to expedite the completion of works.

Timely completion of Highways

2008. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of highway projects with their length in kilometres, awarded during 2011-12. State-wise;
- (b) whether any targets have been fixed for completion of these projects:
- (c) if so, the details thereof: and
- (d) the measures proposed to be taken to ensure timely completion of work in Naxal affected areas especially in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) State-wise details of major highway projects awarded during 2011-12 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Depending upon the size of the National Highway (NH) projects, the construction periods of 30 months to 42 months from date of award have been fixed for the above projects.

(d) Regular review meetings are held with State Government(s) to resolve the impediments including security concerns for ensuring timely completion of work in naxal affected areas including Jharkhand.

Statement

State-wise details of major highway projects under National Highways Development Project (NHDP), NH(O) under VGF, Special Accelerated Road Development Programme (SARDP), Left Wing Extremism (LWE) awarded during 2011-12

Sl. No.	Name of State	Length awarded (in kms)
1	Andhra Pradesh	510
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	906