

**Cases of graft in highway project**

604. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that as per World Bank's Institutional Integrity Unit Report there is huge case of graft in highways projects, such as contractors give bribes, gold coins to NHAI babus, etc. as reported in the Indian Express on 3 April, 2012;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Ministry on this report and the contractors who are responsible for these acts;

(c) the details of contracts which are in question;

(d) whether the Ministry of Finance has also asked the Ministry to act promptly on this report; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) to (e) Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance have forwarded a report of the World Bank's Institutional integrity unit for appropriate investigation. World Bank's Institutional integrity unit in its report has alleged that some companies executing World Bank funded projects in respect of contract packages WB-9, WB-10, WB-12 under Lucknow-Muzaffarpur National Highway Project (LMNHP) in the State of Bihar, contract package IVA under Grand Trunk Road Improvement Project (GTRIP) in the State of Uttar Pradesh & Bihar and contract package V-C under Third National Highways Project (TNHP) in the State of Jharkhand have committed sanctionable practices. Ministry had constituted a committee to conduct an enquiry and the committee had submitted its report. Accordingly, NHAI has been asked to verify the consequences occurred on the outcome of the projects in terms of quality or project completion and take appropriate action as per provisions of agreements with the contractors/supervision consultants. Further, NHAI has been asked to ascertain if there was any evidence of wrong doing or misconduct on part of any NHAI officials and take appropriate action as deemed fit as per service rules.

**National Highways in Rajasthan**

605. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of length/lanes National Highways (NHs) in Rajasthan;
- (b) the details of those being constructed or developed or improved or pending for constructions out of above NHs;
- (c) the projects sanctioned and length completed during each of the last three years;
- (d) the funds released by Government for this purpose, indicating improved stretches during the same period, year-wise;
- (e) the proposals of Rajasthan Government for development of NHs pending with Central Government; and
- (f) by when the proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) and (b) The total length of National Highway network in the State of Rajasthan 7,180 km, of which 1,472 km is less than 2 lanes, 3668 km of 2 lanes and 2040 km of 4 or more lanes. The development/improvement of various National Highways is a continuous process and is taken up based on *inter se* priority and availability of funds. Presently, development/improvement works are in progress on an aggregate length of 1220.11 km of National Highway stretches entrusted with the Rajasthan State PWD and on 1577.93 km of National Highway stretches entrusted with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). These works include works being funded through Government and Public Private Partnership (PPP).

(c) and (d) For the National Highways stretches with the State PWD, funds are released State wise and not project wise, whereas for stretches with NHAI the funds are earmarked for the entire country including the State of Rajasthan. The projects sanctioned/awarded, length completed and funds released during each of the last three years are given in Statement (*See below*).

(e) and (f) Under Annual Plan 2012-13, estimates amounting to Rs. 162.42 crore have been received from the State Government of Rajasthan against which estimates amounting to Rs. 25.07 crore have been sanctioned. The remaining proposals are in different stages of approval.

**Statement***A. Details of projects sanctioned and length completed/improved during the last three years for the NH stretches with the State PWD*

Sl. No.	Year	Projects sanctioned		Length constructed/ developed/ improved (in km)	Funds released (Rs. in crore)
		Amount (in Rs. crore)	Length (in km)		
1.	2009-10	451.38	290.85	158.00	215.57
2.	2010-11	110.83	100.00	261.68	200.16
3.	2011-12	2293.52*	782.53*	216.40*	119.36

\* These include PPP projects implemented through the State PWD.

*B. Details of projects awarded under different phases of National Highway Development Project (NHDP) and length completed/improved during the last three years for the NH stretches with NHAI*

Sl. No.	Year	Projects awarded		Length constructed/ developed/ improved (in km)
		Amount (in Rs. crore)	Length (in km)	
1.	2009-10	1854.87	130.42	40.40
2.	2010-11	926.51	126.88	56.40
3.	2011-12	9219.81	967.02	221.61

**Irregularities in NHAI**

606. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some irregularities have been detected in the bidding and awarding of the road projects of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the authorities responsible;