

Steps taken for environmental clearances

1197. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to speed up the development of various projects of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the Government has decided to clear green hurdles standing in the way of building highways involving billions of dollars of investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several highway and road projects have been stalled by the Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to get the said highway and road projects cleared by the Ministry of Environment and Forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) To speed up the development of various projects of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the Government has decided to relax certain clauses of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of linear projects involving use of forest land falling in a portion of their length. Pending consideration of approval under the Act, work on non-forest land may only be executed upto such point (to be selected by the user agency) on either side of forest land if it is explicitly certified by the user agency that in case approval under the Act for diversion of forest land is declined, it is technically feasible to execute the project along an alternate alignment without involving diversion of forest land. The projects involving widening/upgradation of existing roads have been allowed to be executed on the entire stretch located in non-forest land on submission of an undertaking by the user agency that execution of work on non-forest land shall not be cited as a reason for grant of approval under the Act and in case approval under the Act for diversion of forest land is declined, width of portion of road falling in the forest land will be maintained at its existing level.

(c) and (d) Details of projects wherein environmental/forests/wildlife clearances are pending are given in Statement (*See below*).

(e) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI have taken up the matter with Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) from time to time for streamlining environment and forest clearance for widening projects. Further, the NHAI pursues the matter on continuous basis with MoEF regularly, in respect of each individual road project.

Statement

*Details of projects wherein environmental/forests/wildlife clearances
are yet to be obtained*

Sl. No.	Name of Project
1	2
1.	NH-7 and construction of Panagarh Bypass including new Connectivity Link Road (NH) from NH-7 to NH-12A
2.	Jabalpur-Rewa section of NH-7
3.	Agra (km. 199+660) to Etawah Bypass (km. 323+525) Section of NH-2 including Firozabad Bypass
4.	Unnao-Lalganj section of NH-232A
5.	NH-231 (Raebareli to Jaunpur) and NH-232 (Ambedkar Nagar to Banda)
6.	Kishangarh-Udaipur-Ahmedabad section of NH-79A, NH-79, NH-76 and NH-8 including Udaipur Bypass
7.	Jhalawar-Biaora section of NH-12
8.	Gomati Chauraha to Udaipur of NH-8
9.	Gwalior-Shivpuri Section of NH-3
10.	Rehabilitation and upgradation to 4-laning of Sultanpur-Varanasi Section of NH-56 in the State of Uttar Pradesh
11.	Widening and improvement of existing 2-lane to 2-lane with Paved Shoulder and 4-lane of Obaidullahganj to Betul section of NH-69 from km. 2.800 to km. 8.300 and from km. 20.700 to km. 137.000 (Excluding the Wildlife sanctuary) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

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12. Widening and improvement of existing 2-lane to 2-lane with Paved Shoulder of Pratapgarh to Padi section from km. 80.000 to km. 180.000 of NH-113 in the State of Rajasthan
 13. Widening and improvement of existing carriageway to 4/6-laning of Rampur to Kathgodam section of NH-87 from km. 0.000 to km. 88.000 in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand
 14. Rehabilitation and upgradation of existing carriageway to 4-laning from Amravati to Maharashtra/Gujarat Border section from km. 166.725 to km. 649.000 of NH-6 in the State of Maharashtra
 15. Widening and improvement of existing 2-lane to 4-lane of Kiratpur-Bilaspur Section of NH-21 in the State of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh
 16. Widening and improvement of existing carriageway to 2/4-lane of Bilaspur-Ner Chowk section of NH-21 from km. 134.500 to km. 186.500 in the State of Himachal Pradesh
 17. Rehabilitation and upgradation of existing 2-lane to 2/4 with paved shoulder from Indo/Nepal Border to Varanasi Section of NH-233 from km. 0.000 to km. 298.740 in the State of Uttar Pradesh
 18. Widening and upgradation of existing carriageway to 2-lane with paved shoulders in Dahod-Padholi Section of NH-113 in the State of Gujarat and Rajasthan
 19. Environment clearance for rehabilitation and upgradation of existing carriageway to 4-lane divided carriageway of Hospet-Chitradurga section of NH-13 in the State Karnataka
 20. Environment clearance for rehabilitation and up-gradation of existing 2-lane to 4-lane from Solapur (km. 255.000) to Maharashtra/Karnataka Border (km. 348.800) section of NH-9 in the State of Maharashtra
 21. Environment clearance for widening and rehabilitation of existing 2-lane to 4-lane of Maharashtra/Karnataka Border to Sangareddy section of NH-9 from km. 348.800 to km. 493.000 in the State of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
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22. Rehabilitation and upgradation of existing 2-lane to 2-lane with paved shoulder of Jowai to Meghalaya/Assam Border from km. 69.200 to km. 173.200 of NH-44 in the State of Meghalaya
 23. Upgradation of existing carriageway to 4/6-lane of Hospet/Karnataka/Andhra Pradesh Border section of NH-63 from km. 280.300 to km. 375.740 in the State of Karnataka
 24. Khed Sinnar section of NH-50 from km. 42.000 to km. 177.000 in the State of Maharashtra
 25. 4-laning of Hoskote-Dobbaspeth section of NH-207 in the State of Karnataka
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Repairing of NHs in Tamil Nadu

1198. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Highways (NHs) passing through the State of Tamil Nadu, along with the details of NHs where repairing or four-laning or six-laning works are going on in the State;

(b) whether they are being undertaken by the private parties;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether such private parties are allowed to collect toll on these National Highways; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) There are 30 no. of National Highways (NHs) aggregating to a length of 4974 km. passing through the State of Tamil Nadu. The maintenance and repairs of NHs is a continuous process. In the State of Tamil Nadu at present three works in an aggregate length of about 20 km. on NH No. 234, 49 Ext. and 209 are going on under Periodical Renewal which is a major maintenance activity. Six works of 4/6-laning in an aggregate length