

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Widening of NH-8D and NH-8E**

3353. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that millions of devotees across the country visit holy places of Somnath and Dwarka located on National Highway No. 8 E; and

(b) if so, the plan of Government for widening of NH-8E and NH-8D to six lane standard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the present estimated traffic at different sections of homogeneous stretches of NH-8D and NH-8E, the above National Highways do not qualify for six laning.

**Target of construction of 20 kms. road in a day**

3354. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the Ministry proposed to construct 20 kms. of road a day;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has not been able to achieve this target of 20 kms. a day;

(c) if so, the reasons for not achieving the same;

(d) the reasons that the pace of construction was dwindled from 13.72 kms. on 2009-10 to 10.15 kms. in 2011-12; and

(e) the bottlenecks that the Ministry is facing and how it is planning to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) This Ministry contemplated construction of 20 km roads a day in the year 2009-10. The targeted and completed length under various schemes including Special Accelerated Road

Development Programme for North Eastern region (SARDP-NE) and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, since 2009-10 are as under:

(in kms)

Year	Target	Achievement	Length constructed per day
2009-10	5830	5145	14.10
2010-11	5534	4439	12.16
2011-12	5824	5013	13.73
2012-13	6092	5726*	15.69*

\*Provisional.

The progress of construction of National Highways (NHs) has been slow due to several problems such as land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environmental and forest clearance, approval for rail over bridges as well as shortage of skilled/semi-skilled manpower and economic slowdown. In order to expedite implementation of the Projects, Regional Offices have been set up by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) headed by Chief General Manager. Powers have been delegated to the Chief General Managers. Special land acquisition units are also set up to expedite land acquisition. Chief Secretaries of State Government have also been nominated as Nodal officers to expedite construction of highway projects. Projects are also closely and periodically reviewed at Headquarter as well as field units. Recently, environmental clearance has been delinked from forest clearance. Further, Reserve Bank of India has given dispensation to treat the loan to the toll projects as secured loan.

#### **Reconstruction of bridge**

3355. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Mumbai-Goa highway is prone to accidents;
- (b) whether a private tourist bus fell off from the bridge recently;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and