

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

(d) the steps that the Ministry is taking to repair or reconstruct the bridge which is 130 years old?

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

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A private tourist bus fell off from the Jagbudi river bridge at Km. 178/850 of NH-17. The accident took place due to negligence of the bus driver.

(d) More safety/cautionary measures have been added at the bridge location. The proposal for widening/reconstruction of the bridge has also been taken in Annual Plan 2013-2014, which will be sanctioned based on *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

Speed of commercial vehicles on National Highways

3356. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intend to control the speed of commercial vehicles on National Highways to reduce accidents and higher rate of fatalities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that through an order Government has asked the automobile manufacturers to limit the speed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 112 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has notified the maximum speed limits in public place for different classes of vehicles *vide* notification S.O. 425(E) dated 9th June, 1989.

(c) and (d) Rule 118 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 was amended *vide* notification G.S.R. 943(E) dated 31st December, 2012 so as to provide that certain types of transport vehicles shall be equipped or fitted with a speed governor