

1	2	3	4	5
4	Sangameshwar to Rajapur (Km 265/0 to 351/0)	86.0 Km	854	
5	Rajapur to Zarap (Km 351/0 to 450/170)	99.17 Km	896	
6	Zarap to Patradevi (Goa Border)	21.00 Km	264.05	The work was started on 23.3.2006 and has been completed on 31.5.2013.

Construction of bridges on NHs passing through Goa

591. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to construct any bridges on National Highways passing through Goa; if so, the names of the bridges and the cost involved; and

(b) whether any bridges are proposed to be built on State Highways or District Roads for which any financial assistance has been sought and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Proposals for reconstruction/widening of 3 minor bridges at Km 93/900 on NH-4A, Km 80/100 and at Km 32/100 on NH-17 at an aggregate amount of Rs. 650.00 lakh are included in the Annual Plan 2013-14. The estimates for these proposals are yet to be submitted by the State Government.

(b) No, Sir.

Priority status to development of roads and highways

592. SHRI N. K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accorded priority status to development of roads and highways in the country; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of targets fixed and achieved for construction of roads during 2013-14; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to speed up the process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The Government has accorded high priority for development of National Highways (NHs) in the country. Towards this, besides resolving various issues related to land acquisition, environmental/forest clearance, etc. which affects the progress of construction of NHs, the Government has decided to award the projects on Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) basis in the current financial year.

(b) The target and achievement for construction of NHs during 2013-14 are as under:

Target (in kms)	:	6330
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Achievement (in kms)	:	1183 (up to June, 2013)
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(c) In order to speed-up 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, the issues of delinking environmental clearance from forest clearance and exempting linear stretches from the requirement of NOC from Gram Sabha have been resolved. Reserve Bank of India has given dispensation to treat the debt due to lenders, to the extent assured by Project Authorities in terms of concession agreement, as secured loan. Disinvestment of 100% equity to other willing buyers has been allowed after completion of the construction and also substitution of concessionaire allowed after achievement of financial closure to salvage the languishing projects. The NHAI has also constituted Negotiation/Reconciliation Settlement Committees and also High Level Expert Settlement Advisory Committee to settle the claims/disputes.