

by Project Authorities in terms of concession agreement, as secured loan. Further, Government has decided to award contracts on Engineering Procurement and Contract (EPC) basis also.

**Paucity of road space**

3956. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study by Transport Corporation of India and IIM Calcutta has said that while India's freight volume was increasing at a compounded annual growth rate of 9.08 per cent and vehicles were growing at 10.76 per cent the road length was increasing at only 4.01 per cent resulting in paucity of road space to accommodate vehicles and increase the space; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Transport Corporation of India (TCIL) and IIM-Calcutta has released a joint study on the "Operational Efficiency of Freight Transportation by Road in India". This study, *inter-alia*, stated that India's road freight volumes are increasing at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 9.08% and the population of vehicles (all types) is increasing at a CAGR of 10.76%, the road length at a CAGR of only 4.01%, leading to congestion, long delays and substantial costs to the environment and the economy.

(b) In order to check the alarming increase of private vehicles on roads, the measures to encourage a shift from private (two-wheelers and cars) mode of transport to public transport has to be a joint endeavour of the Central, State and local Governments. The Central Government is supporting various public transport projects such as Metro Rail, Bus Rapid Transit System and modern city bus services as per urban bus specifications in various cities to popularise the public transport services.

**Target for awarding of road projects**

3957. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will miss the target of awarding road projects by miles;

(b) if so, the State-wise and Project-wise details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that private players are not bidding for new projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The scheme-wise details of target and achievement of award of road projects during the last financial year are as under:—

Sl. No	Name of scheme	Target (km.)	Achievement (km.)
1.	National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and others	9500	1322
2.	Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North Eastern Region (SARDP-NE)	1980	51
3.	Left Wing Extremism (LWE)	975	543

In 16 projects involving private sector participation no bid was received during last financial year. The reasons for poor response of bidders in the award of works include poor market sentiments, lack of equity with the concessionaire, unavailability of debt with the financial institutions, etc.

#### **Redressal mechanism for settlement of claims**

3958. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any effective dispute redressal mechanism for settlement of claims of private contractors involved in the National Highway projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of cases of financial disputes/