

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) The construction of 15 km long Ponnani-Kuttippuram 2-lane By-pass stretch of NH-17 including Ponnani-Cochin (PC) canal bridge within the 30 m Right of Way (RoW) has been taken up by the State PWD (not by NHAI). The construction work of the By-pass is likely to be completed by December, 2016.

24x7 power supply

891. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to provide 24x7 power to every household in the country in a time bound plan;
- (b) whether State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the progress made so far, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Electricity is a Concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity to various consumers in a State/UT is within the purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utility. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in providing 24x7 electricity supply to all consumers by establishing power plants and transmission systems in Central Sector through Central Power Sector Undertakings (CPSUs).

Government of India has now taken initiative to prepare Action Plans for all the States/UTs for providing 24x7 Power For All (PFA) in partnership with the States/UTs. To begin with, State specific documents for the State of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan have been prepared and action for preparation of State specific documents in respect of other States/UTs has been initiated.

Measures to revive road sector

892. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that delay in decision making by authorities, flaws in developer agreements and absence of clear blueprint for highways have scuttled road sector's growth and PPP projects;
- (b) what efforts are being made to bring the sector on track;
- (c) which are the factors responsible for causing problems in PPP projects; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) Due to economic downturn resulting in upsetting the traffic projections and consequent revenue generation, non-availability of equity with the concessionaires and due to other construction related issues during 2012-13 and 2013-14, the response to National Highways (NH) projects under Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) mode of delivery was poor, with 21 project bids out by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode not receiving any response. Some of the already awarded NH projects are delayed due to delay in land acquisition, utility shifting, non-availability of soil/aggregates, poor performance of contractors, delay in statutory clearances, public agitation for additional facilities and arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI have taken a number of steps for speedy completion of NH projects including streamlining of the process of land acquisition and other statutory clearances, harmonious substitution of concessionaire, re-schedulement of Premium quoted by concessionaires, getting Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to treat road sector loans as secured, introduction of revamped dispute resolution mechanism and close coordination with other Ministries etc. Considering the current market conditions, particularly with reference to the highway sector, focus of the Government is on implementation of highways through public funded EPC mode. Once, the highways sector gathers momentum through execution of the Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) projects and current issues plaguing Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) mode are well-addressed, the focus on BOT (Toll) mode would be restored in order to effectively take highways sector forward.

Assistance provided under Indira Awas Yojana

†893. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BPL families who have been provided funds under Indira Awas Yojana during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that, keeping in view the price rise, less amount is being provided for building houses;

(c) whether Government would consider to make ₹1,60,000/- available to the poor for building houses like Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Awas Yojana by Uttar Pradesh Government; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.