

Pending National Highways

†1655. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several National Highway projects are pending in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for their early completion;
- (c) whether such projects are pending in Bihar also; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Some NH projects including Bihar are not completed within the schedule time mainly due to Land Acquisition, Utility shifting, Non-availability of Soil/ Aggregates, Poor performance of contractors, Environment/Forest/Wildlife Clearance, ROB & RUB issue with Railways, Public agitation for additional facilities, Arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc. To expedite completion of these projects the following steps taken which include Streamlining of Land acquisition, Streamlining of Environment Clearances, Exit for Equity Investors, Premium re-schedulement, Securitization of road sector loans, Mutual termination /Cancellation of awarded road projects and re-bidding, Close coordination with other Ministries, Revamping of Dispute Resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc.

Development of roads for 'Simhastha Kumbh Parva' in Ujjain

†1656. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the action plan and time bound implementation programme for strengthening and constructing easy to access and widened roads for successful organization of 'Simhastha Kumbh Parva' in 2016 at Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh; and
- (b) by when all the highways connected to Ujjain would be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) This Ministry is mainly responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). There are no NHs passing through Ujjain in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.