

and also allowed Rationalised Compensation to concessionaires, in case delays are not attributable to them, to address fund crunch in such highway projects. With a view to ameliorate the shortage of equity and improve liquidity, Government has also allowed Securitization of future cash flows, Deferment of Premium in stressed highway projects, Harmonious Substitution in financially stressed highway projects and 100% Equity Divestment after 2 years of construction of all highway projects under PPP mode. Various steps have also been taken by the Government/NHAI to remove the hurdles affecting the construction of NH projects which includes streamlining of land acquisition and regulatory clearances, close coordination with other Ministries, revamped Disputes Resolution Mechanism.

Progress of Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway project

2410. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway project is progressing as per the schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor along with the revised cost estimates and timelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) At present, Feasibility study of Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway project is in progress.

(c) The delay in progress of project is mainly due to finalisation of land acquisition and other pre-construction activities.

Delay in completion of expansion of National Highways works in Andhra Pradesh

2411. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the delay being caused in completion of expansion of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) which are the National Highways facing this problem;

(d) the details of works completed and yet to be completed, so far; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Ministry for their early completion?