

(b) and (c) The award for compensation for land acquisition in Pinnaluru-II village has been declared by Competent Authority, Land Acquisition based on multiplication factor (one). The disbursement of compensation has been initiated. However, pursuant to the Gazette Notification of Government of Tamil Nadu dated 21.09.2017, process of supplementary award for multiplication factor varying from 1.25 to 2 for rural areas has been initiated.

Bidding out of contracts for roads

2178. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government was hoping to bid out contracts for 25,000 km length of roads in 2017-18;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the total length of roads awarded during the year 2017-18 was much less than what was awarded in 2016-17; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) Ministry set the ambitious target of 25000 km for awarding of contracts in 2017-18 against which 17055 km was awarded which is comparably higher than the awarded achievement of 15948 km during the financial year 2016-17.

Economic viability of Polavaram project

2179. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is of a view that the cost-benefit ratio on Polavaram Project after the revised estimates submitted by Andhra Pradesh is creating problem for economic viability of the Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether cost-benefit analysis was done for the project after the revised estimates and the essence thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) As informed by the Central Water Commission, State Government had submitted the second revised cost Estimate of Polavaram Irrigation Project amounting to ₹58319.06 crore. The same was examined and observations were communicated to the project authorities. The observations primarily related to variation in cost of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement; change in design parameters of left and right main canal; and increase in quantities pertaining to Head-works. State has submitted some information in this regard in June, 2018. However, finalization of revised estimates and Cost-Benefit ratio of the project is dependent upon clarifications/compliances by the State Government.

Status of NHs in North-Eastern States

†2180. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of new highways, in terms of kilometres constructed during last three years in the North-Eastern States of the country, the length of highways in terms of kilometres, constructed in these States before 2014;

(b) whether any plan has been formulated to inter-link all these States through highways; and

(c) if so, by when the target fixed is expected to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country. During the last three years, 1685 km of highways have been constructed in NER States. Length of highways constructed during 2010-2014 in NER States is 2519 km.

(b) No, Sir. However all the States in NER are connected through National Highways.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.