

(xviii) Road safety activities at colleges/universities.

(xix) Actor Akshay Kumar has been engaged as brand ambassador for Road Safety.

(xx) Video/Audio spots on road safety have been created.

Delayed projects under the ministry

1065. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any developmental projects under the Ministry that have been delayed, if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(b) details of action the Ministry will take to ensure delayed projects are fast-tracked?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (b) There are 453 developmental projects under this ministry which are delayed mainly due to land acquisition, utility shifting, non-availability of soil/aggregate, poor performance of contractors, environment/forest/wildlife clearances, ROB & RUB issues with Railways, public agitation for additional facilities, arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc. To fast-track these projects, various steps such as streamlining of land acquisition & environment clearances, premium re-scheduling, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent review meetings with project developers, State Governments and contractors at various levels etc. have been taken up.

NH Projects in Telangana

1066. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telangana Government has proposed to convert Hyderabad-Narsapur-Medak-Yellareddy-Banswada-Bodan and Basara-Bhainsa to be taken up as a National Highway;

(b) if so, the date when such request has been made to the Ministry; and

(c) details of action taken by Central Government on the above stretch?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Yes, Sir.