

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 182
ANSWERED ON 10TH MARCH, 2016

NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS

*182. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of National Highway projects have been held up/delayed on account of wildlife related clearances/disputes, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to share information of NH projects with Wildlife Institutes of India for developing GIS enabled map for all highways passing through protected areas so as to avoid face off between NHAI and wildlife organisations;
- (c) if so, the detailed plan chalked out by the Government in consultation with wildlife organisations; and
- (d) the other steps taken or being taken in close coordination with all stakeholders for safe passage of animals as well as development of National Highways?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 182 ANSWERED ON 10.03.2016 ASKED BY ADV. JOICE GEORGE REGARDING NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS.

(a) A few projects have been delayed on account of wildlife related clearances. However, in majority of such projects, only part of the length has been impacted. The details of National Highway projects which have been held up/delayed on account of wildlife related clearances/disputes are annexed.

(b) to (c) Yes, Madam. Chairman, NHAI(National Highway Authority of India) has held a meeting with the Wildlife organizations on 19.01.2016, and it has been decided that such meetings will be held once every quarter. NHAI has proposed to share all the relevant information on the stretches passing through wildlife areas with the wildlife organisation, and has sought their expert advice in optimization of measures required to be taken in highway projects leading to linear intrusion in wildlife rich areas. NHAI has also requested the wildlife organizations to study the effectiveness of mitigation measures already undertaken by NHAI and to provide designs of cautionary signages and awareness material for installation along wildlife corridors.

(d) Other steps taken to ensure safe passage of animals as well as development of National Highways include:

- Capacity building of officials through inclusion of the issue of wildlife clearance and mitigation measures in relevant curriculum of induction training and in-service training, through the IAHE
- Recently, 10 NHAI officials attended a 3-day workshop at the Wildlife Institute of India.
- Undertaking assessment of impacts on wildlife areas as a part of Environmental Impact Assessment of projects
- Providing adequate mitigation measures as per the stipulations of Regulatory agencies
- Consultations with the Forest/Wildlife officials before finalizing the DPRs

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 182 ANSWERED ON 10.03.2016 ASKED BY ADV. JOICE GEORGE REGARDING NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS

Details of National Highway projects which have been held up/delayed on account of wildlife related clearances/disputes

SL. NO.	STATE/UT/SCHEME/AGENCY	NO. OF DELAYED WORKS
1	Assam	1
2	Bihar	1
3	Telangana	3
4	Sikkim	1
5	BRO	1
6	NHAI	11
