

RCD minister: Work on for better connectivity; good roads won't be given to NHAI

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PATNA: Road construction minister Nand Kishore Yadav on Thursday said the department has started working on projects for better roads and bridges in the state, as part of the Prime Minister's special package of Rs 1.25 lakh crore for Bihar.

Yadav was talking to media persons after a review meeting with principal secretary, RCD, Amrit Lal Meena, engineer in chief, besides senior officials of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and others.

He said, "The Union ministry of road transport and highways (MoRTH) is extending full co-operation and assistance to our endeavour to connect different parts of the state with better roads and bridges. Under this regime, development works are going on at fast pace and the procedure for all tenders regarding different projects will be completed by March 2018."

The department has initiated work on 19 projects (packages) in the state while 14 work packages have already been allotted. "Owing to some land acquisition issues and other related matters, 21 work packages have not been allotted so far. However, work on them will start



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NAND KISHORE YADAV, RCD minister

RCD MINISTER SAID UNDER THIS REGIME, DEVELOPMENT WORKS ARE GOING ON AT FAST PACE AND THE PROCEDURE FOR ALL TENDERS REGARDING DIFFERENT PROJECTS WILL BE COMPLETED BY MARCH 2018

through a new tender by March 2018. Some bridges have also been included in the project, as per the demands of people," the RCD minister said.

A detailed project report (DPR) for parallel new bridge over Gandhi Setu is ready and work for bridges on Kosi, Sone and Ganga at Sahibganj and Buxar are in progress, he added.

The state government has, in principle, declared some state highways to be taken up as national highways, but there

are some technicalities that will be notified by the central government agencies and it would take some time, Yadav said, adding, "We will maintain these roads till the matter is finalised."

The minister said, "There are 52 roads, which have been identified and we will soon shortlist them. The two-lane state highways, which are in better shape, will, however, not be given to the NHAI. About 2,500-km stretch of roads will come under this category."