

### **Implementation of Central projects**

9.89 There were 275 central sector projects costing above Rs.100 crore that were in various stages of implementation as on September 30, 2002 (out of these, bulk of the projects are infrastructure projects). Of these, there were 38 mega projects costing more than Rs.1,000 crore. Time and cost overruns have been a major problem affecting the implementation of central sector projects. An analysis of cost overruns of 170 delayed projects during July-September, 2002 quarter shows that just 13 projects are responsible for about 80 per cent of the cumulative cost overrun.

Similarly, the projects with large time overruns are a few in number.

9.90 The number of delayed Central sector projects has progressively come down, from 239 at the beginning of the Ninth Plan to 144 by the end of Ninth Plan ( figure 9.4). The cost overrun has come down from 62 per cent in March, 1991 to 26 per cent in March, 2002 resulting in substantial savings (figure 9.5). This decline in time and cost overrun is the result of close monitoring and systems improvement. Standing Committees have been set up by the Ministries/Departments to fix responsibility for time and cost overrun of central sector projects.