

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO - 221**  
ANSWERED ON – 09/08/2023

**ACHIEVEMENTS IN ROAD SECTOR**

**221. LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):**

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is India's current ranking at the international level in terms of the length of its road network;
- (b) what specific achievements or advancements India has made in terms of expanding its road network in the past three years; and
- (c) whether there is any significant projects or initiatives that have contributed to the growth and development of the road infrastructure in the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 221 ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023 ASKED BY LT.GEN. (DR.)  
D. P. VATS (RETD.) REGARDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN ROAD SECTOR

(a) As per the latest available report, India has a road network of about 63,31,757 km as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019, which is the second largest in the world.

(b) and (c) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). A number of projects under various schemes have taken up by the Ministry for development of NHs in the country such as projects under Bharatmala Pariyojana including subsumed National Highways Development Project (NHDP), Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East Region (SARDP-NE), Special Programme for development of Roads in Left Wing Extremism affected Area (LWE) and Externally Aided Projects (EAP). NHs stretches not covered under any of the above schemes are taken up for development under National Highway Original [NH(O)] works depending upon traffic density, condition of road, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

NH network in the country has expanded from about 1,32,995 km in March, 2020 to about 1,46,145 km at present.

Ministry has laid focus on development of High-Speed Access Controlled Corridors and 4 Lane road network. Length of 4lane plus NH network including High Speed Corridors has increased from about 33,850 km in March, 2020 to 44,654 km so far. Project implementation has already been started on 21 green field access controlled corridors including expressways in which work in 3,192 km length has been completed.

Ministry has also emphasized on minimizing less than 2 Lane NHs by upgrading these to Minimum 2 Lane / 2 Lane with Paved Shoulder. Accordingly, length of less than 2lane NHs has decreased from about 23,700 km to about 15,800 km so far.

Ministry has undertaken development of 2,078 km of Port connectivity roads to increase logistics efficiency.

Ministry has also undertaken green initiatives by planting about 2 cr trees, besides utilizing municipal waste for embankment construction, waste plastics in Bituminous construction and waste slag in Cement Concrete Construction in past three years.

Other initiatives contributing to the growth and development of NH network in the country undertaken Ministry is as under.

- i. Promoting Contractor's Ecosystem by rationalising the projects and contract documents
- ii. All project planning including preparation of DPR mandated on PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) Portal
- iii. Adoption of new technologies and continuously upgrading the standards and specifications
- iv. Portal based project monitoring leading to early resolution of issues
- v. Raising resources from innovative financing models etc.

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