

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1485
ANSWERED ON-02/08/2023

RECONSTRUCTION OF MANNUTHY-VADUKKENCHERRY STRETCH OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY 544

1485. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

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

- (a) whether Government has noticed the traffic disruption due to the formation of a crack on the Mannuthy-Vadukkencherry stretch of National Highway 544 near the Kuthiran tunnel which was inaugurated recently, if so, details of the effective measures taken to reconstruct the road on a war-footing;
- (b) whether Government will take stringent action against the construction company that constructed the road in poor quality, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) when will the service road construction be completed in the Mannuthy-Vadukkencherry stretch of NH 544?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. Cracks have observed at Vazhukkumppara during the current monsoon. The reason informed by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for cracks in the high embankment is construction of embankment without proper slope, since the concessionaire was unable to construct the designated slope due to public protest demanding service road. As a safeguard measure, the traffic on left hand side (LHS) is diverted to right-hand side (RHS) (diversion 950 m) and temporary arrangement has been made for the safety of commuters. Further, concessionaire has been directed to construct retaining wall of 150 meter length.

(c) In the project, approximately 41 km of service road was constructed and balance approximately 2 km couldn't be constructed due to land issues/public protest.
