

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-117
ANSWERED ON-13/12/2023

CONSTRUCTION OF DWARKA EXPRESSWAY

117. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Dwarka Expressway was to be built initially by State of Haryana and later taken over by central agencies;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the construction incurred a cost of ₹ 250.77 crores per km against ₹ 18.20 crores per km originally approved by CCEA?
- (c) whether there has been any inquiry into the anomalies in the construction of the said Expressway; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has identified the reasons for such huge loss of public money as stated by CAG?

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 RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 ANSWERED ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2023 ASKED BY DR. V. SIVADASAN REGARDING 'CONSTRUCTION OF DWARKA EXPRESSWAY'

(a) Yes sir, the Dwarka expressway was initially planned by respective State Government/Union Territory.

This road was declared as National Highways on 23.06.2017. Subsequently, the project of development of Dwarka Expressway was taken up in Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I.

(b) No sir.

In response to an audit observation, it has been clarified that Dwarka Expressway envisages development of 563 Lane-km, awarded at civil cost of Rs 5,269 crore, which amounts to Rs 9.35 crore per lane-km.

It is pertinent to note that the Dwarka Expressway has been designed as India's first fully access controlled 8-lane elevated expressway on single pier, along with an 8-lane tunnel of 3.8 km and four level interchanges (2 Nos.). This project also includes 2.4 km long 6-lane tunnel for seamless connectivity to Delhi International Airport, multiple 3-level interchanges for signal free connectivity and 6-lane service road for segregation of local traffic.

Dwarka Expressway project has been implemented under National Corridor Efficiency Improvement component of Bharatmala Pariyojana. Under this scheme, CCEA had approved improvement of 5,000 km length for Rs 91,000 crore under National Corridor Efficiency Improvement. This component provided for lane expansion (typically additional 2 lanes), ring roads, bypasses and elevated corridor for de-congestion of National corridors. Considering the program level average, audit made the observations about the cost Rs 18.20 crore per km i.e. Rs 9.1 crore per lane-km. However, the Cabinet Note clearly provided that cost of flyover, ring road etc. can be established after Detailed Project Report (DPRs) and there were no cost norms for flyover, ring roads etc.

Thus, it is can be seen that in spite of various special features, as mentioned above, the cost per lane-km is comparable to the average program level cost.

(c) & (d) Does not arise.
