

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-567
ANSWERED ON- 07/02/2024

QUALITY TESTING OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

567. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that NHAI is facing issues with quality in construction and maintenance of NH projects;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that NHAI have asked its senior officials to collect samples of major ongoing works during their field visits and get them tested at major Government accredited labs;
- (c) whether Government feels the need to check the quality of works as the contractors are quoting abnormally low prices to bag projects; and
- (d) if so, whether Government is planning to setup new labs for testing in Ludhiana which can cover testing for northern part of India?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) & (b) Quality always remains a top priority of the Ministry. As an additional precautionary measure, NHAI has issued Policy Circular No 15.11/2023 dated 10.11.2023 for collection and independent testing of samples collected during site visits/inspections.
- (c) Yes, sir. The quotes of bidders depend on several factors like familiarity with working in project region, availability of quarries, spare resources available with the contractor etc. NHAI has issued Policy Guidelines No 15.8/2021 dated 15.01.2021 for quality inspection of NH projects where the projects were awarded to abnormally low quoted bids.
- (d) No sir. NHAI does not have any such plan of setting up of testing labs in Ludhiana.
