

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -1062
ANSWERED ON – 04/12/2024

EXPENDITURE ON ROAD MAINTENANCE

1062. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

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

- (a) the details of funds that the Ministry has allocated for road maintenance in the last five years;
- (b) the percentage of the national highway network classified as being in “good” or “excellent” condition; and
- (c) the average annual expenditure on road maintenance per kilometre of highway, and how does this compare to global best practices?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The Government in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). Expenditure of about ₹ 27,000 Crore has been incurred on Maintenance and Repair (M&R) of NHs during the last five years.

(b) and (c) Out of 1,46,195 km length of NH network in the country, damages have been reported in about 816 km length during the current financial year.

Development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. The conditions of NHs are assessed from time to time by MoRTH and its various executing agencies. The maintenance works on NHs are accordingly taken up from time to time to keep the NHs in traffic worthy condition.

The Government has evolved a mechanism to ensure M&R of all NHs sections through accountable maintenance agency.

The M&R of stretches of NHs, where development works have commenced or Operation, Maintenance and Transfer (OMT) Concessions/ Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Contracts have been awarded, are the responsibility of the concerned Concessionaires/ Contractors till the

end of the Defect Liability Period (DLP)/ the Concession Period. Similarly, for NHs stretches undertaken under TOT (Toll Operate and Transfer) and InvIT (Infrastructure Investment Trust), M&R responsibility lies with concerned Concessionaire till the end of the Concession Period. No separate maintenance expenditure is recorded in respect of these NHs stretches.

For all remaining sections of NHs stretches, Government has taken a policy decision to undertake maintenance works through Performance based Maintenance Contract (PBMC) or Short Term Maintenance Contract (STMC). Cost of such maintenance works depends on terrain type, condition of road, lane configuration, contract period etc. MoRTH has incurred expenditure of ₹ 6,523 Crore towards maintenance on such stretches in last year.

Since accounting of separate maintenance expenditure is not done for a large section of NHs as above, expenditure incurred per km on entire NH network merely based on the expenditure incurred on maintenance contracts does not provide a true picture of expenditure on maintenance per kilometer on NHs in the country.
