

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -256
ANSWERED ON – 27/11/2024

LINKING OF DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS WITH NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

256. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

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

- (a) the key features and budget allocation for the initiative taken to link district headquarters with National Highways particularly in Karnataka;
- (b) the number of district headquarters connected to National Highways in the last three months, and what are their locations;
- (c) the anticipated impact on regional connectivity and economic development, supported by recent data; and
- (d) the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the scheme's effectiveness, and which key performance indicators are tracked?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). There is no specific scheme at present for connecting district headquarters with National Highways. As per available records, out of 784 District Headquarters, 746 District Headquarters are accessible within a distance of 10 km of NHs. All district headquarters in the State of Karnataka are connected within a distance of 10 km of NHs. Development and maintenance of these NHs are taken up based on the condition of the road, traffic density, inter se priority and availability of funds.

(c) and (d) Infrastructure sector which is the prime mover of the economy contributes to the faster economic growth and development.

NH network in the country has increased by 1.6 times from 91,287 km in March, 2014 to 1,46,195 km at present. Budgetary allocation of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

has increased from about Rs. 31,130 Crore in 2013-14 to about Rs. 2,84,000 Crore in 2024-25. With the increased investment of Government in the National Highway Network, quality and extent of NHs network has improved substantially.

The government is focusing on upgrading all NHs to minimum two lane with paved shoulder standards. The government has also focused on construction of access controlled NHs and 4 lane roads for increasing logistics efficiency in the country. Accordingly, length of operational High Speed Corridor on NHs has increased from 93 km in 2014 to 2,474 km. Length of 4 lane and above NH network has increased by more than 2.5 times from 18,371 km in 2014 to 48,422 km. Also length of NHs less than 2 lane standards has decreased more than half from 27,517 km in 2014 to 13,000 km.

The above developments have increased the regional connectivity, including for the State of Karnataka, and accessibility to the NHs across the country and also increased the logistics efficiency.
