

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2641**  
ANSWERED ON-18/12/2024

**CONSTRUCTION OF KIRATPUR-MANALI NATIONAL HIGHWAY**

2641. MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI:

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

- (a) whether IIT experts have recommended construction of a tunnel in the under construction Kiratpur-Manali National Highway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the said highway would not be affected by natural disasters after the construction of the tunnel?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) had constituted an Expert Committee comprising of experts from various fields including experts from IIT Mandi and IIT Roorkee for assessment of damages and finalisation of restoration work in damaged and landslide prone sections of Kiratpur-Manali National Highway. The Expert Committee has suggested to explore alternate option as remedial measures for Nerchowk-Pandoh section, to avoid high hill cutting between Ch.203 to Ch.205. Accordingly, DPR consultant was engaged for alternate alignment possibility. The development of this section will be taken up based on the outcome of DPR and techno-economic feasibility.

(c) In hilly terrain, tunnels provide relatively safer mode of transportation in comparison to open hill cut highway construction.

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