

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.270
ANSWERED ON- 27/11/2024

GREEN HIGHWAYS

270. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Green Highways Policy and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has faced any issue in the implementation of the provision of landscaping and plantation of trees along National Highways (NHs) and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has developed specific protocols to ensure timely completion of Northern Patiala Bypass project, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any measures have been implemented to monitor the environmental impact of the four-lane access-controlled bypass in the Patiala region, and if not, the reasons for the lack thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) Yes Sir. Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification & Maintenance) Policy - 2015 was issued by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.. Since then avenue and median plantations are being taken up as per Annual Plantation Action Plan in conformity with IRC:SP:21-2009 Guidelines. NHAI has also formulated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the implementation of the above policy in 2019 and has been updating the same regularly for more effective implementation. NHAI has planted 465.42 lakh saplings along the National Highways with the involvement of various stakeholders, after promulgation of Green Highways Policy - 2015 (enclosed as Annexure).
- (b) One major constraint has been the limited availability of adequate area of land for the purpose of plantation.
- (c) Yes Sir. The government has developed specific protocols such as timely land possession delivery to the concessionaire (14 km out of 29 km has already been done). Detailed Project

Monitoring, including forest clearance (under process for Stage-1, clearance) Railway clearance has already been obtained.

(d) During the DPR stage Environmental Impact Assessment is conducted and remedial measures are built into the project design. Environmental Monitoring Plan and compliance with Environmental Regulations is ensured by obtaining clearances under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, and following any specific guidelines provided by the state pollution control boards.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) IN RESPECT OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 270 FOR REPLY ON 27.11.2024 ASKED BY DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL REGARDING GREEN HIGHWAYS

Details of Plantation carried out on National Highways from 2015-16 to 2024-25 (till 15th November 2024)																				
Sl No.	State	Cumulative Plantation of 3 Years (2015-16 to 2017-18) (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Plantation in 2018-19 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Plantation in 2019-20 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Plantation in 2020-21 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2021-22 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2022-23 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2023-24 (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)			Plantation in 2024-25 (till 15th November 2024) (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)	Total Plantation Progress (2015-16 to 2023-24) (No. of Plants in Avenue & Median Plantation in Lakh)		
					Avenue	Median	Total	Avenue	Median	Total	Avenue	Median	Total	Avenue	Median	Total			Avenue	Median
1	Andhra Pradesh	6.34	1.47	4.8	1.22	1.79	3.01	0.50	1.17	1.67	0.58	1.00	1.58	0.58	0.55	1.14	0.89	1.22	2.11	22.12
2	Assam	1.01	0.73	0.04	0.92	1.54	2.46	1.01	0.72	1.73	0.45	0.44	0.89	0.22	0.63	0.85	0.16	0.11	0.27	7.98

3	Bihar	1.62	0.64	0.93	0.68	0.04	0.72	1.07	0.96	2.03	0.65	1.47	2.12	1.15	1.23	2.38	1.72	1.57	3.29	13.73
4	Chhattisgarh	2.02	0.86	0.54	0.84	0.34	1.18	0.70	0.31	1.02	0.88	0.44	1.33	0.86	0.31	1.17	0.47	0.53	0.99	9.11
5	Delhi	0.5	5.5	0.02	1.33	0.80	2.13	2.80	6.71	9.50	2.18	1.26	3.44	2.47	1.13	3.60	7.45	1.50	8.95	33.65
6	Gujarat	4.96	0.65	1.06	1.20	1.58	2.78	0.58	1.80	2.38	2.41	2.10	4.51	1.61	2.08	3.69	1.92	2.94	4.86	24.88
7	Haryana	6.46	4.25	0.28	0.61	1.91	2.52	1.00	0.59	1.59	0.93	1.27	2.19	1.13	1.85	2.98	1.07	4.52	5.59	25.87
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.16	0.08	0.23	0.42	0.26	0.68	0.47	0.25	0.71	0.35	0.47	0.82	0.21	0.11	0.32	0.39	0.22	0.61	3.61
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.41	0.38	0.06	0.01	0.12	0.13	0.11	0.31	0.42	0.20	0.66	0.86	0.41	0.36	0.76	0.70	0.11	0.80	3.82
10	Jharkhand	1.32	0.86	0.26	0.50	0.65	1.16	1.32	1.21	2.53	0.77	0.30	1.07	0.57	0.36	0.92	0.32	0.69	1.01	9.13
11	Karnataka	7.51	1.75	3.73	0.81	2.70	3.51	1.47	2.26	3.73	1.04	1.82	2.86	0.56	1.67	2.23	1.30	1.49	2.79	28.10

12	Kerala	0.9	0.24	0.15	0.08	0.25	0.33	0.04	0.20	0.24	0.02	0.13	0.16	0.01	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.04	0.04	2.24
13	Madhya Pradesh	0.49	2.31	5.3	1.78	2.16	3.94	2.25	3.52	5.77	5.05	5.13	10.18	3.11	3.93	7.04	4.19	4.30	8.49	43.53
14	Maharashtra	7.46	0.64	4.62	1.82	2.40	4.22	3.23	4.74	7.97	2.69	3.34	6.04	2.71	2.54	5.25	1.70	2.28	3.98	40.17
15	Odisha	2.91	2.04	1.73	1.84	1.06	2.90	2.43	1.35	3.78	1.88	1.52	3.40	1.23	1.45	2.68	0.68	1.82	2.51	21.95
16	Punjab	3.98	0	1.98	2.55	2.26	4.81	2.15	0.81	2.96	1.12	1.34	2.45	1.33	1.00	2.33	1.55	2.81	4.36	22.88
17	Rajasthan	8.1	1.52	2.07	3.16	1.63	4.79	4.17	5.28	9.45	7.29	5.16	12.46	2.81	5.29	8.10	2.05	2.14	4.19	50.67
18	Tamil Nadu	6.44	1.82	2.92	1.19	1.67	2.86	0.93	1.54	2.47	1.03	1.52	2.55	1.27	1.35	2.62	1.93	1.03	2.95	24.63
19	Telangana	3.09	0.18	0.59	1.76	1.51	3.27	0.64	1.54	2.18	0.65	2.09	2.74	0.36	0.39	0.74	0.22	0.41	0.63	13.43
20	Uttar Pradesh	6.74	3.8	3.56	1.76	4.55	6.31	1.67	3.75	5.41	3.25	3.02	6.27	2.80	2.02	4.81	1.97	1.34	3.31	40.22
21	Uttarakhand	0	0.52	0.15	0.64	1.46	2.10	1.40	0.73	2.12	0.70	0.53	1.23	0.38	0.18	0.56	0.27	0.10	0.37	7.06

22	West Bengal	3.85	1.03	1.2	1.46	1.59	3.04	1.64	0.74	2.38	1.87	0.51	2.37	1.20	0.53	1.72	0.50	0.54	1.04	16.64
	Grand Total	76.27	31.27	36.22	26.58	32.29	58.87	31.58	40.47	72.05	35.99	35.53	71.52	26.96	29.12	56.08	31.44	31.70	63.14	465.42
