

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 208**  
ANSWERED ON 19/03/2025

**CONSTRUCTION OF CATTLE SHELTERS ALONG NATIONAL HIGHWAYS**

\*208. MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI:

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

- (a) whether the NHAI has decided to initiate any pilot project for the construction of shelters to prevent accidents caused by cattle on National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any arrangement is being considered to provide treatment to cattle in case of an accident; and
- (d) the names of the highways selected for the construction of cattle shelters under the pilot project along National Highways?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*208 FOR ANSWER ON 19/03/2025 ASKED BY MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF CATTLE SHELTERS ALONG NATIONAL HIGHWAYS.

(a) to (d)

Government in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways does not set up animal centres or the facility of cattle care as the same is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. In fact, there is a legal responsibility of the cattle owner to prevent such cattle from entering, standing or moving on National Highways. Section 36 of the Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002 lays down that no person who is in charge of, or in possession of, any vehicle or animal shall, wilfully or negligently, cause or allow such vehicle or animal to cause any damage to any Highway. Further, Section 37 provides that no person in charge of, or in possession of, any vehicle or animal shall allow such vehicle or animal to stand or proceed on a Highway unless the same is under such safety control as may be prescribed.

However, in order to address the problem of stray cattle coming on the National Highways, and lay down appropriate advisory to the State Governments, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has taken up a pilot study at 4 stretches of NH-334 (B), NH-148 (B), NH-21 and NH-122 with the help of the respective concessionaires. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between NHAI and the respective concessionaire does not provide for animal treatment, though there is a provision of para-medical staff along with some veterinary supplies. Once the pilot studies are completed, appropriate advisory would be issued to the State Governments for prevention of stray cattle from coming or resting on the National Highways.

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