

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2989
ANSWERED ON-26/03/2025

DELAYS IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT EXECUTION

2989. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:
SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:
SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
SHRI HARIS BEERAN:

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

- (a) the steps being taken to address project delays and cost overruns under infrastructure schemes such as Bharatmala and Sagarmala, State-wise;
- (b) the number of projects currently delayed under these schemes, and the reasons for such delays; and
- (c) the financial implications of these delays and measures planned to ensure timely project completion?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) Development of National Highways is a continuous Process. The implementation of 637 projects, including those under the Bharatmala Pariyojana Scheme, has faced delays primarily due to delays in pre-construction activities including Land Acquisition (LA), financial difficulties faced by contractors, force majeure events, scarcity of construction materials, etc. To overcome these challenges and expedite project execution, the Government has undertaken various initiatives. These include streamlining and expediting land acquisition process, revamping Parivesh Portal to facilitate faster forest and environmental clearances, enabling online approval of General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) of Road Over Bridge/Road Under Bridge (ROB/RUB) from the Railways, and conducting review meetings at various levels with all stakeholders, including State Governments.

(c) Financial implication does not arise in every delayed project. If delay is not attributable to the Contractor, price escalation is paid as per contract conditions, which may or may not result in additional cost, depending upon final value of price escalation determined on actual completion of project. If delay is attributable to the Contractor, damages are imposed and there is no additional cost due to delay. The Government is taking all necessary steps for timely completion of such delayed projects.
