

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2037
ANSWERED ON – 06/08/2025

HIGHWAY PROJECTS IN BACKWARD DISTRICTS

2037. SHRI DEBASHISH SAMANTARAY:

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

- (a) the status of national highway expansion in aspirational districts;
- (b) the budget allocation and project-wise completion timelines; and
- (c) measures taken to prevent delays due to land acquisition?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) All the aspirational districts are connected with the National Highways (NH) network. Development and maintenance of NHs, including NHs providing connectivity to aspirational districts, is a continuous process. Works on NHs, including capacity augmentation, are accordingly taken up based on the traffic density, connectivity requirement, condition of the road, inter-se priority and synergy with PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP).

Government has constructed 4,493 km of NHs connecting aspirational districts during the last three years and the current year.

At present, 1,240 NHs projects, including NHs projects providing connectivity to aspirational districts, in 29,406 km length costing Rs.7.80 Lakh Crore are under construction in the country, out of which 15,674 km length is completed. These projects are under various stages of construction with completion in a phased manner by FY 2028-29.

Budgetary allocation for development and maintenance of NHs, including NHs providing connectivity to aspirational districts, during the current Financial Year 2025-26 is Rs. 2,75,675 Crore.

(c) Government has taken following initiatives to address delays due to Land Acquisition (LA) and expedite timely completion of projects. These include:-

- i. Adoption of Bhoomi Rashi portal for enabling digital & streamlined LA approval process and disbursement of compensation.
- ii. Leveraging the mechanism of review and resolution of bottlenecks/hindrances in projects, in active collaboration with the State Governments and other stakeholders.
- iii. Public consultation, including consultation with Communities located along the road, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working in the area and other stakeholders including Government departments at different stages of project assignment (such as inception/feasibility stage, preliminary design stage and final design stage) are regularly held to address the concerns.
- iv. Digitization of project alignment through PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) linked to land records of States / Union Territories (UTs) for facilitating drafting of notification under section 3A of Land Acquisition Act.
