

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-195
ANSWERED ON-17/12/2025

STATUS AND DELAYS IN NH-44 AND SINGPORA–VAILOO TUNNEL DEVELOPMENT

195. SHRI SAJJAD AHMAD KICHLOO:

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

- (a) the comprehensive status of the Jammu–Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) and reason for delays;
- (b) the total number of deadlines transgressed, the present stage of all unfinished segments, the newly stipulated completion timelines, the environmental impact assessments undertaken, and the geotechnical mitigation measures adopted to address landslides and ecological vulnerabilities; and
- (c) the updated status of the Singpora–Vailoo Tunnel, including progress on the DPR, land acquisition, environmental and security clearances, causes for annulment of previous tenders, administrative deferments and the definitive schedule for re-tendering and initiation of execution?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *195 ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025 ASKED BY SHRI SAJJAD AHMAD KICHLOO REGARDING 'STATUS AND DELAYS IN NH-44 AND SINGPORA-VAILOO TUNNEL DEVELOPMENT'.

(a) & (b) Jammu–Srinagar National Highway (NH) -44, of about 244 km, is a strategically vital corridor and is being developed as a four-lane highway. Four-laning has been completed in about 230 km length, covering the Jammu–Ramban and Banihal–Srinagar sections, including 20 tunnels (21 km) and 9 bypasses (63 km). The works in about 14 km long unfinished segment of Ramban–Banihal section under three contract packages is in progress which are scheduled for completion by June 2027. Package-wise details are given at Annexure.

The unfinished Ramban–Banihal section (14 km) passes through geologically fragile terrain with major thrust and fault zones and involves construction of five tunnels (about 8 km) and viaducts (about 6 km). Works have been delayed due to difficult geology, frequent landslides, need for realignment and additional engineering interventions. Environmental Impact mitigation measures and detailed geotechnical investigations have been undertaken. In order to anticipate landslides, innovative technology of satellite-based ground displacement monitoring as a pilot project has been undertaken. Further, mitigation measures such as realignment to minimise hill cutting, viaducts and cut-and-cover structures at vulnerable locations, slope protection through soil nailing, rock bolting and bio-engineering have been adopted. Details of the ongoing works, with stages of progress and completion timelines upto 2026–27, are given at Sl. No. 4 of Annexure.

(c) The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Singhpura–Vailoo Tunnel has been prepared. Over 90% land has been acquired, and Stage-I forest clearance has been obtained. The earlier tender was cancelled due to rejections of the selected bidder for national security reasons. DPR is being reviewed to optimize the design and cost of construction, operation and maintenance. The tendering of the project shall be taken up after fresh appraisal & approval of the project.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *195 ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025 ASKED BY SHRI SAJJAD AHMAD KICHLOO REGARDING 'STATUS AND DELAYS IN NH-44 AND SINGPORA-VAILOO TUNNEL DEVELOPMENT'.

S. No.	Project	Length (in km)	Status	Remarks
1	Jammu Bypass (km. 0.00 to km 15.00)	15.00	Completed	-
2	Jammu to Udhampur (km 15.00 to km 67.00)	64.57	Completed	-
3	Udhampur to Ramban stretch	Four laning from Udhampur-Chenani from km 67 to 89	19	Completed
		Chenani – Nashri Tunnel Project (km 89 to km 130)	10.89	Completed
		Four laning from Nashri-Ramban from km 130 to 151	17.5	Completed
		Construction of tunnel / viaduct at identified sliding/slip zones in Udhampur Ramban section	2.2	Completed
4	Ramban to Banihal stretch	Construction of Balance Work and Value Addition Works of Four Laning of part of Ramban to Banihal Section of NH-1A (Now NH-44), From Km 151.000 to 187.000 on Engineering Procurement & Construction (EPC) Mode in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir under NHDP Phase-II	16.66	Completed
		Package-I (Tunnel Package) Construction of four lane twin tube tunnel(2X2-lane) configuration including approaches from Marog to Digidol (from Design Ch.154+210 to Ch.158+650 (North Bound) and from Design Ch.155+940 to Ch.160+260(South Bound))	4.38	Physical progress 19.4% Revised scheduled date of completion - June 2027
		Construction of four lane twin tube tunnel (2X2-lane configuration) including approaches from Digidol to Khuni Nallah {from Design Ch.158+750 to Ch.161+350 and from Design Ch.160+360 to Ch.163+406} Package-II (Tunnel Package)	3.20	Physical progress 82.2% Revised scheduled date of completion - February 2026
		Construction of Four Laning of Ramban to Banihal Section of NH-1A (Now NH-44), from Ch.165+092 to Ch. 171+855 (North Bound) and from Ch. 166+895 to Ch. 173+638 (South Bound) Package-III (Viaduct Package)	6.02	Physical progress 42.8% Revised scheduled date of completion - December, 2026
5	Rehabilitation, Strengthening and Four Laning of Banihal Bypass from Km 187+000 to Km 189.350 in the state of Jammu & Kashmir	2.3	Completed	-
6	Four laning Banihal to Qazigund section of NH-1A (KM 189.350 to KM 220.700) including 8.45 Km length twin tube tunnels.	16.27	Completed	-
7	Four-laning Qazigund to Srinagar section of NH-44	65.41	Completed	-
	Total Length (in Km.)	243.40		
