

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2017
ANSWERED ON – 17/12/2025

DELAYS IN NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS

2017. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:
SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:

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

- (a) total number and value of National Highway projects sanctioned during the last five years which are currently delayed, along with the current status of the project;
- (b) total number and value of highway projects which have been bid out but construction is yet to begin, including the reasons for no commencement;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to expedite these delayed projects to avoid cost-escalation; and
- (d) how does Government plan to bring all delayed or uninitiated highway projects back on schedule?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) 574 under construction National Highways (NHs) projects with cumulative project cost of about Rs. 3.60 lakh crore, which were awarded during last five years, have spilled beyond their original completion schedule as per contract, of which 300 projects are facing a delay of <1 year, 253 projects of 1-3 years and 21 project of more than 3 years, without attaining any of the various stages of project completion and excluding projects under consideration for termination / foreclosure.

(b) 133 NH projects with total cost of about Rs. one lakh crore have been awarded but appointed date could not be declared pending fulfilment of pre-requisite conditions, inter-alia, availability of encumbrance free land and clearances including forest and wildlife clearances excluding available time period with contractor / concessionaire for achievement of financial close and submission of bank guarantee.

(c) and (d) The Government in the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has taken various steps to streamline land acquisition process by leveraging the mechanism of review and resolution of bottlenecks / hindrances in ongoing projects, in active collaboration with the State Governments and other stakeholders. Also making full efforts to expedite the availability of necessary clearances / approvals and the fulfilment of conditions precedent, for new projects.

As a result of the above, no. of projects delayed by more than 3 years has reduced from 152 as on 01.04.2024 to 85 as on 30.11.2025. Further, no. of projects for which appointed date could not be declared even after being awarded for more than 12 months, has reduced from 87 as on 01.04.2024 to 45 as on 30.11.2025.
