

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2029
ANSWERED ON-17.12.2025

COLLAPSE OF CERTAIN SECTIONS OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY-66 IN KERALA

2029. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

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

- (a) whether Ministry will conduct a detailed inquiry in light of the recent collapses of newly constructed sections of National Highway-66 in Kerala, including the latest unfortunate incident in which one person tragically lost his life after a girder under construction fell on a passing vehicle in Alappuzha district, so as to ascertain the reasons for collapse, including any lapses in design or inspection protocols during execution;
- (b) whether Ministry has already identified the contractors, consultants and officials responsible for any of the previous collapses; and
- (c) if so, the details of punitive measures initiated against them?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) After the incident of RE Wall failure at Kooriyad on 19.05.2025. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) constituted an Expert committee comprising of former/present Chief Scientists, CRRI, Professor & Head of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Palakkad and Director, Geological Survey of India, who visited all vulnerable locations in ongoing projects and submitted their report on 04.08.2025. NHAI is taking actions as per the recommendations of the above Committee.

After the incident of RE Wall Failure at Mylakkadu, Kottiyam on 05.12.2025, an Expert Committee visited the site on 06.12.2025. The corrective actions are underway and traffic has been restored.

Keeping in view of above 02 incidents, NHAI is now deploying Independent Geotechnical Investigation Agencies to conduct detailed soil investigations at each RE/RS Wall locations in all the projects on NH-66 under the supervision of Prof./Head of Civil Engg., IIT

Palakkad. Based on these soil/ground properties, the design and construction of each RE/RS Wall shall be reviewed and remedial actions shall be taken.

The accidents reported in the project stretch of Aroor-Thuravoor are due to various reasons; viz., not strictly enforcing approved traffic diversion plans, not adhering to traffic rules and restricted Right of Way etc.

The said fatal accident of girder collapse occurred at 2.30 am on 13.11.2025 on the project site was due to mechanical failure (Hydraulic Jack failed) and due to violation of safety protocol by the commuter. In this regard, Expert Committee inspected the site on 14.11.2025 to evaluate the probable cause of the incident of falling of PSC Girders. Expert Committee submitted its preliminary report on 17.11.2025. The actions are being taken as per the recommendations of the Committee.

(b) & (c) Yes Sir. The Responsible Concessionaires and Consultants have been debarred or issued Show-Cause Notices. The details are annexed.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) AND (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2029 ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025 ASKED BY DR. JOHN BRITTAS REGARDING ‘COLLAPSE OF CERTAIN SECTIONS OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY-66 IN KERALA’.

Sr. No.	Project Name	Details of incident	Action Taken
1	Ramanattukara-Valanchery	RE wall collapsed	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Concessionaire M/s.KNR has not participated in bids from May – Nov.2025.2. Independent Engineer (IE); M/s. Highway Engineering Consultant not participated in bids from May – Nov.2025.3. Team Leader of IE was removed.4. One Officer was suspended and one Officer was transferred.
2	Elevated Corridor from Aroor to Thuravoor Thekku	Toppling of two PSC girders of Aroor -Thuravoor Elevated highway on 13.11.2025.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. NHAi temporarily suspended Contractor and Authority Engineer for 01 month from bidding and issued Show cause Notice on 26.11.2025 for debarment (up to 03 years to Contractor and up to 2 years to Authority Engineer) & monetary penalty.2. Removed key Personnel of Contractor and Authority Engineer associated with the Structure.3. Matter also taken up with Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala for strictly enforcing traffic diversion plan.
3	Kollam Bypass to Kadambattukonam	Failure of RE Wall Ch. 504+400 to 504+500 (LHS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. NHAi temporarily suspended Concessionaire and Independent Engineer for 01 month from bidding and issued Show cause Notice on 05.12.2025 for debarment (up to 03 years to Concessionaire and up to 2 years to Independent Engineer) & monetary penalty.2. Removed key Personnel of Concessionaire and Independent Engineer associated with the project.
