

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1213
ANSWERED ON –29/07/2026

ALL-WEATHER TUNNELS TO ISOLATED BORDER REGIONS

1213. SHRI CHOWDRY MOHAMMAD RAMZAN:

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

- (a) the total funds sanctioned for constructing all-weather tunnels to connect seasonally isolated border regions like Gurez, Tangdhar and Marwah-Warwan;
- (b) the current status of these projects and their definitive completion deadlines; and
- (c) the interim emergency communication and healthcare infrastructure deployed by the Centre to support these populations during complete winter cut-offs?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (c) The Government through this Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). Gurez and Marwah-Warwan are not on NH. However, to connect Tangdhar consultancy services for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for proposed Sadhna Tunnel on the Kupwara–Tangdhar section of NH-701 has been awarded as part of initiative to provide all-weather connectivity to the Tangdhar region. Further, tender has been invited for award of Consultancy services for preparation of DPR for proposed tunnel at Razdan Pass to connect Gurez.

Pro-active snow clearance is ensured on NHs including other roads assigned with Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in these areas to keep these roads open and in traffic worthy condition during winter seasons.

The Government through the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides support to UT of Jammu & Kashmir for emergency communication and healthcare infrastructure through various initiatives. However, provision of healthcare is the primary responsibility of the UT Government.

Under Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), Block Public Health Units Dawa Gurez, Primary Health Centre (PHC) Sheikhpora and New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) Bhagote and Block Public Health Unit at Tangdhar and Teetwal have been sanctioned.

To ensure continuity of specialized medical care during complete road closure, free helicopter/ air evacuation services are provided by UT Government of Jammu & Kashmir for critically ill and emergency patients requiring referral to tertiary healthcare institutions outside Gurez. Such evacuations are coordinated through the District Administration in collaboration with the Health Department.

For areas such as Marwah –Wardwan, one Block Public Health Unit at Community Health Center (CHC) Marwah and one Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM) Margi are sanctioned and 6-Bed Pre-fabricated unit under Emergency Covid Response Package Phase-II (ECRP-II) are also sanctioned for PHC Afti.
