

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1220
ANSWERED ON – 29/07/2026

**RECURRING COLLAPSE OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED NATIONAL HIGHWAY
INFRASTRUCTURE**

1220. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of Road Transport and Highways be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognisance of the recurring collapse, caving-in and structural failures of newly constructed bridges, flyovers and National Highway projects across the country, including the recent incidents on the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway and other major infrastructure projects;
- (b) the findings of investigations into these failures, including responsibility fixed on contractors, consultants and officials and the details of penalties, blacklisting, recoveries and criminal action initiated; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to mandate independent third-party structural audits before inauguration and establish a national accountability framework with strict quality standards to prevent recurrence of such failures?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (c) State / Union Territory (UT) – wise details of National Highway (NH) projects involving collapse, caving-in and structural failures of newly constructed bridges, flyovers etc. including such incidents on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway along with action taken against contractors, concessionaires, and consultants, etc. during 2025 and the current year are annexed. Action against defaulting agencies has been taken as per the provisions of the Contract/ Concession agreement in case of deficiencies/ damages, such as termination of contract

agreement, levying of penalties/ liquidated damages, debarment/ blacklisting, declaring as non-performers etc.

11 officers were removed from service on account of performance assessment and other disciplinary action taken on 11 officers for various reasons including negligence and dereliction of duties.

All efforts are made to ensure that the NHs are constructed as per stipulated quality standards specified in the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) specifications and codes. To ensure that highway construction adheres to stipulated quality standards, Consultants (Authority's Engineer/ Independent Engineers- AE/IE) are appointed by the executing agencies for day-to-day supervision of works at site. Officials of executing agencies undertake inspections from time to time and ensure adherence of conformity of quality of the work done by the Concessionaire/ Contractors with stipulated requirements.

Third-Party Quality Auditors are deployed for independent quality audits of NH works on a case-to-case basis during various phases of project implementation including prior to completion of construction to ensure adherence of conformity of quality of the work done by the Concessionaires / Contractors with stipulated requirements. Deficiencies, if any, observed during such examination / supervision are brought to the notice of the Concessionaires / Contractors for taking up necessary corrective measures.

Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1220 ANSWERED ON 29.07.2026 ASKED BY SHRI SANJAY RAUT REGARDING RECURRING COLLAPSE OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED NATIONAL HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE

State / Union Territory (UT) – wise details of National Highway (NH) projects involving collapse, caving-in and structural failures of newly constructed bridges, flyovers etc. including such incidents on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway along with action taken against contractors, concessionaires, and consultants, etc. during 2025 and the current year:

State/ UT	S. No.	Name of the Project	Year of incident	Details of Major damages / collapses on NHs including on bridges/ flyovers etc.	Action Taken
Gujarat	1	Sanchore-Santalpur Package-4	2025 & 2026	Ruts, cracks and surface deformation/ Distress was observed recently after rains, severe rutting at some locations.	Penalty of ₹2.8 crore has been imposed on the Contractor along with a recommendation for debarment up to one year or until successful rectification, whichever is later. Contractor has taken up repair/ restoration works as per the recommendation of an Expert Committee. The Project Director of NHAI was suspended.
Karnataka	2	Two/Four Laning of BRT Tiger Reserve Boundary to Bengalore Section of NH-948	2025	Km 337+670 to Km337+680 RE Block of length 10 mts collapsed	Concessionaire has taken up repair/ restoration works as per recommendation of report submitted by IISC Bangalore.
Kerala	3	NH Connectivity to ICTT at Vallarpdam from Kalamassery to Vallarpadam NH 966A	2025	Distress in pile foundation was observed at Bridge no. 07 & 08 Ch. 7+960 and Ch. 9+067 (BHS)	Penalty of Rs. 30.74 Cr was imposed on Contractor
	4	Kodugallur to Edappally NH 66	2025	Damages in the pile foundation Ch. 398+400	Concessionaire debarred for 1 year. Rectification

State/ UT	S. No.	Name of the Project	Year of incident	Details of Major damages / collapses on NHs including on bridges/ flyovers etc.	Action Taken
				and 398+989 (RHS) Sub-standard work (Minor Bridge works, backfill material for RS Wall, Poor safety precautions, delayed grouting of girders, bulging of bearing) or poor quality (Defective RE Panels)	works taken up at cost of contractor.
	5	Chengala-Neeleshwaram Section of NH-66	2025	Soil nailing collapsed incident occurred at Ch. 58+035 to Ch. 58+100 (RHS) on 16.06.2025 with no casualties.	Penalty of Rs. 30 lakhs imposed on Contractor and Rs. 5.00 lakhs on IE.
	6	NHAI - Six laning from start of Valanchery bypass to Kappirikkad section of NH – 66 (old NH-17) from Design Ch. 298+500 (Ex. km 304.250) to Design Chainage 335+850 (Ex. km 349.260) in the state of Kerala on Hybrid Annuity Mode under Bharatmala Pariyojana	2025	RE wall collapsed	Debarment of Contractor and Independent Engineering firm from participating in ongoing/future bidding for 01 month period or completion of investigation by the expert Committee whichever is later.
	7	Thuravoor-paravoor	2025	Collapse of 4 PSC Girders during constructions	Penalty of Rs. 15.35 Lakhs imposed. Bridge Engineer & Team Leader of AE were Terminated.
	8	6L Elevated Corridor along with development of existing 4 lane road at ground level from Aroor to Thuravoor Thekku section of NH 66	2025	Toppling of two PSC girders at span P-202-P-203	Contractor and AE debarred from future bidding for 1 month.

State/ UT	S. No.	Name of the Project	Year of incident	Details of Major damages / collapses on NHs including on bridges/ flyovers etc.	Action Taken
				Failure on part of AE to review efficacy of material being used in launching and not ensuring application of approved launching scheme.	
	9	Ramanattukara-Valanchery	2025	Defects in RE wall	Rectification works initiated by Contractor at his own cost.
Madhya Pradesh	10	4-laning of Bhopal-Bioara section of NH-46	2025	Premature failure of pavement.	Penalty of Rs. 119 Cr imposed on Contractor. Rectification work initiated at the cost of Contractor.
	11	4-laning of Tejjainagar-Balwara Section of NH-347BG (design length :33.40 km) in the state of Madhya Pradesh on HAM mode.	2025	The slope protection measure in outside tunnel portal collapsed (Partially Damaged)	Show cause notice issued to Concessionaire.
Maharashtra	12	Balance work of up-gradation to four lane with paved shoulder configuration of the highway starting from existing km 88.400 (Savali vihir) to km 163.400 (start of Ahmednagar bypass) (Design length -75.000 km) in the state of Maharashtra on EPC mode	2026	Collapse of top slab of Box culvert at Ch. 111+660 and Ch. 96+870 (RHS) on 16.05.2026 & 22.06.2026 respectively.	Re-construction is undertaken by EPC Contractor.
	13	Box Culvert at Ch. 111.660 and 96.870 on NH 160	2026	Box culvert top slab collapsed.	Penalty of Rs. 75.00 lakhs imposed on Contractor and Rs. 12.50 lakhs on AE.

State/ UT	S. No.	Name of the Project	Year of incident	Details of Major damages / collapses on NHs including on bridges/ flyovers etc.	Action Taken
Tamil Nadu	14	4-laning of Sethiyathope - Cholpauram section from Km 65.960 to Km 116.440	2025	The RE wall blocks portion of the A2 (Thanjavur) side approach (LHS side) have been disconnected from the geo grid and fallen down.	The rectification work completed by the Concessionaire at their own cost. Penalty of Rs. 18.05 lakhs imposed on Contractor and Rs. 5.00 on IE.
Uttar Pradesh	15	Constriction of 211.880 m Major Bridge on Well Foundation over River Gomti on NH-128A (Parallel to Shastri Bridge) in Jaunpur city in the State of Uttar Pradesh on EPC mode.	2026	Tilt and shift beyond limits in well foundation.	Termination of Contractor initiated. Tendering process for balance works also initiated.
	16	Widening and strengthening to two Lane with Paved Shoulder/Four Lane with paved shoulder configuration from km. 61.500 of NH-727B near Nawalpur (km 178.500 of Sonauli Balia Marg, Old SH-01) i.e. end point of Salempur Bypass to km. 106.495 of NH-727B near Sikanderpur under EPC mode in the State of Uttar Pradesh	2026	During execution of pier reinforcement work for the viaduct portion at Chainage 77+220, a portion of the reinforcement cage collapsed and fell on workers present at the site.	Investigation initiated against Contractor.
	17	6L with access control provision Saharanpur bypass to Ganeshpur section from 13.89 Km to 41.820 Km of Delhi- Dehradun Economic Corridor (Package-2)	2026	Cracking and honeycombing in RCC deck slab of the Biharigarh Elevated structure.	Rectification initiated by EPC Contractor.
West Bengal	18	Six Laning of National Corridor NH-19 from Palsit to Dankuni (up to NH-6 Connector) from km 588.870 to km 652.700 in the state of West Bengal under Bharatmala Pariyojana to be executed on BOT (Toll) basis.	2026	Collapse of RE Wall	Toll has been suspended. 2 key personnel of IE and Concessionaire suspended.

State/ UT	S. No.	Name of the Project	Year of incident	Details of Major damages / collapses on NHs including on bridges/ flyovers etc.	Action Taken
Meghalaya	19	Two Lane with paved shoulders configuration in Jowai-Meghalaya Assam Border Section of NH - 44 from Km 69.200 to Km 173.200 (design Ch 171.455) in the state of Meghalaya	2025	Slippage of Bituminous concrete for a length of approximate 10-15 mtrs	Penalty of Rs. 20,00,000/- imposed on Contractor and rectification work carried out by Contractor at his own cost.
