

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -2014**  
ANSWERED ON – 05/08/2026

**MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AND CONSTRUCTION QUALITY ISSUES**

**2014. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:**

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

- (a) details of funds allocated and utilized for maintenance and repair of National Highways during Financial Year 2025-26 and the first quarter of Financial Year 2026-27;
- (b) reports of poor construction quality, premature deterioration, potholes and accidents on recently constructed or upgraded National Highways and action taken against defaulting contractors; and
- (c) the mechanism for independent quality audits and public grievance redressal regarding the condition of National Highways across the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) Details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred for maintenance and repair of National Highways (NHs) during Financial Year (FY) 2025-26 and the first quarter of FY 2026-27 are as under: -

| Year                                                                | Allocation (₹ Crore) | Expenditure (₹ Crore) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2025-26                                                             | 12,711               | 12,678                |
| 2026-27 (till 30.06.2026)                                           | 13,000 <sup>+</sup>  | 2,923                 |
| <sup>+</sup> - Proposed Fund Allocation for Financial Year 2026-27. |                      |                       |

- (b) State / Union Territory (UT) – wise details of major deficiencies / defects / structural failures / collapses on NHs stretches, including newly constructed / upgraded NHs, reported during the last year and current year, due to poor construction quality, premature deterioration, potholes etc., along with action taken are at Annexure.

Total number of road accidents reported on NHs, including newly constructed / upgraded NHs, during the last calendar year and current calendar year are as under: -

| 2025                                                                              | 2026 (upto 27.07.2026) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1,43,526*                                                                         | 77,234*                |
| <b>*- Based on Electronic Detailed Accident Report (e-DAR) data (provisional)</b> |                        |

(c) 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.

The Government has established system of receiving complaints through Public Grievance Portal, mobile based Rajmarg Yatra app for citizen feedback regarding issues / grievances related to National Highways (NHs) including the quality issues. Further, for complaints received from various Social Media Platforms including complaints received from other sources about various issues concerning NHs including issues related to quality of construction, the Government has set up an internal mechanism to take cognizance of these complaints through web portal towards ensuring that necessary corrective actions are taken up by the Officials / Concessionaires / Contractors for the NHs projects.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2014 ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026 ASKED BY SHRI KAPIL SIBAL REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AND CONSTRUCTION QUALITY ISSUES**

State / UT – wise details of major deficiencies / damages / failures / collapses on NHs stretches, including newly constructed / upgraded NHs, reported during the last year and current year, due to poor construction quality, premature deterioration, potholes etc., along with action taken: -

| State/ UT | S. No. | Project / Stretch Name                                                                                                                                                        | Year of Incident | Details of Major deficiencies / damages / failures / collapses                                                                                                                                                                                       | Action Taken                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gujarat   | 1      | Sanchole-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 imposed on Contractor along with 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 Expert Committee. |
| Karnataka | 2      | BRT Tiger Reserve Boundary to Bangalore 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 observed at Bridge no. 07 & 08 Ch. 7+960 and Ch. 9+067 (BHS)                                                                                                                                                             | Penalty of ₹30.74 Cr imposed on Contractor.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|           | 4      | Kodugallur to Edappally NH 66                                                                                                                                                 | 2025             | Damages in the pile foundation Ch. 398+400 and 398+989 (RHS)<br>Sub-standard work (Minor Bridge works, backfill material for RS Wall, Poor safety precautions, delayed grouting of girders, bulging of bearing) & poor quality (Defective RE Panels) | Concessionaire debarred for 1 year. Rectification 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 ₹30 lakh imposed on Contractor and ₹5 lakh on IE.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|           | 6      | 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) | 2025             | RE wall collapsed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Debarment of Contractor and IE from participating in ongoing/future bidding for 1 month period or completion of investigation by the Expert Committee whichever is later.                                                                                  |
|           | 7      | Thuravoor-Paravoor                                                                                                                                                            | 2025             | Collapse of 4 PSC Girders during construction                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Penalty of ₹15.35 Lakh imposed. Bridge Engineer & Team Leader of AE terminated.                                                                                                                                                                            |

| State/ UT      | S. No. | Project / Stretch Name                                                                                            | Year of Incident | Details of Major deficiencies / damages / failures / collapses                                                                      | Action Taken                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | 8      | Ramanattukara-Valanchery                                                                                          | 2025             | Defects in RE wall                                                                                                                  | Rectification works initiated by Contractor at his own cost.                                                                                                                     |
| Madhya Pradesh | 9      | Bhopal-Bioara section of NH-46                                                                                    | 2025             | Premature failure of pavement.                                                                                                      | Penalty of ₹119 Crore imposed on Contractor. Rectification work initiated at the cost of Contractor.                                                                             |
|                | 10     | Tejainagar-Balwara Section of NH-347BG                                                                            | 2025             | The slope protection measure in outside tunnel portal collapsed (Partially Damaged)                                                 | Show cause notice issued to Concessionaire.                                                                                                                                      |
| Maharashtra    | 11     | Existing km 88.400 (Savali vihir) to km 163.400 (start of Ahmednagar bypass)                                      | 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 undertaken by EPC Contractor.                                                                                                                                    |
|                | 12     | Box Culvert at Ch. 111.660 and 96.870 on NH 160                                                                   | 2026             | Box culvert top slab collapsed.                                                                                                     | Penalty of ₹75 lakh imposed on Contractor and ₹12.50 lakh on AE.                                                                                                                 |
| Tamil Nadu     | 13     | 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. | Rectification work completed by Concessionaire at their own cost. Penalty of ₹18.05 lakh imposed on Contractor and ₹5 Lakh on IE.                                                |
| Uttar Pradesh  | 14     | Delhi - Dehradun Economic Corridor Phase 2 of NH-344G                                                             | 2026             | Caving in of Pavement due to inadequate drainage provisions                                                                         | Rectified by Contractor. Project Manager of Contractor & team leader of AE suspended.                                                                                            |
|                | 15     | Lucknow – Kanpur                                                                                                  | 2026             | Settlements of pavements and slippages of Bituminous surfaces at some locations                                                     | Repair work undertaken by Concessionaire at their cost. Team Leader and Resident Engineer of Independent Engineer and Project Manager of Concessionaire blacklisted for 2 years. |
| West Bengal    | 16     | Six Laning of National Corridor NH-19 from Palsit to Dankuni (up to NH-6 Connector) from km 588.870 to km 652.700 | 2026             | Collapse of RE Wall                                                                                                                 | Toll has been suspended. 2 key personnel of IE and Concessionaire suspended.                                                                                                     |
| Meghalaya      | 17     | Jowai - Meghalaya Assam Border Section of NH - 44 from Km 69.200 to Km 173.200 (design Ch 171.455 )               | 2025             | Slippage of Bituminous concrete for a length of approximate 10-15 mtrs                                                              | Penalty of ₹20 Lakh imposed on Contractor and rectification work carried out by Contractor at his own cost.                                                                      |

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