

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -2814
ANSWERED ON – 12/08/2026

CONDITION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2814. SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE:

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

- (a) total length of National Highways that has been identified as requiring urgent repair or resurfacing due to potholes, poor pavement condition or other safety deficiencies, State-wise;
- (b) number of accidents, fatalities and injuries reported on National Highways during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government conducts periodic independent road safety audits of National Highways and if so, the details of the findings and remedial action taken during the last three years; and
- (d) mechanism in place for monitoring and ensuring timely repair of potholes, maintenance of road markings, signage and traffic signals on National Highways, including penalties imposed on concessionaires or contractors for non-compliance?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) State / Union Territory (UT) – wise length of National Highways (NHs) in poor / damaged condition reported during the last three years is at Annexure. All the damaged NH sections have been attended for immediate maintenance / restoration to traffic worthy condition.

(b) Total number of road accidents, fatalities and injuries reported on NHs during the last three calendar years are as under: -

Calendar Year	No. of Accidents	No. of Fatalities	No. of Injuries
2024	150,958	64,772	145,868
2025	143,526*	62,122*	160,224*
2026 (upto 27.07.2026)	77,234*	32,771*	89,560*
*- Based on Electronic Detailed Accident Report (e-DAR) data (provisional)			

(c) All NHs works are carried out as per standards, guidelines, manual, code of practice of Indian Roads Congress as well as specifications for Road and Bridge Works. Necessary road safety measures are taken up during design, construction, operation and maintenance stages. Road Safety Audit (RSA) of NHs has been

made mandatory for independent assessment at all stages i.e. design, construction, pre-opening stage of NH projects as well as during operation and maintenance stage on existing NHs for ensuring road safety. Based on findings of such audits (which generally includes issues of inadequate road markings, signages, crash barrier, lack of overpass / underpass / foot over bridge, etc.), necessary action is taken accordingly in a time-bound manner.

(d) Government has prioritized the maintenance of existing NH network and inter-alia evolved a mechanism to ensure Maintenance and Repair (M&R) of all NHs sections, including repair of potholes and maintenance of road markings and signages at an optimum level of service in accordance with Indian Roads Congress (IRC) guidelines, through accountable maintenance agency.

The M&R of stretches of NHs, where development works have commenced or Operation, Maintenance and Transfer (OMT) Concessions/ Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Contracts have been awarded, are the responsibility of the concerned Concessionaires/ Contractors till the end of the Defect Liability Period (DLP)/ the Concession Period. Similarly, for NHs stretches undertaken under TOT (Toll Operate and Transfer) and InvIT (Infrastructure Investment Trust), M&R responsibility lies with concerned Concessionaire till the end of the Concession Period.

For all remaining sections of NHs stretches, Government has taken a policy decision to undertake maintenance works through Performance based Maintenance Contract (PBMC) or Short Term Maintenance Contract (STMC).

Further, Government has also directed Authority officers for thorough inspection of NHs stretches within six months of expiry of the DLP / Concession Period to check enforcement of defect rectification and maintenance status of NHs stretches. In the event of not fulfilling the Contractual obligations by Contractor / Concessionaire, DLP / Concession Period is also suitably extended.

Action against defaulting agencies is 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 including declaring failure as "Catastrophic" etc.

Out of total 1.46 Lakh km length of NH network in the country, about 36,000 km length is under development, 58,000 km length under DLP / Concession Period, and 41,000 km length under maintenance primarily through Short Term Maintenance Contract (STMC) and Performance Based Maintenance Contract (PBMC) works and also including 4,000 km length maintained departmentally through BRO. Government has decided to take up maintenance in 20,000 km during 2026-27 as part of plan for full transition towards the target of 100% NH network coverage under maintenance.

Government has initiated monitoring of the quality including defect rectification in NHs projects through mobile based application. This facilitates efficient highway project management by the internal stakeholders (Field officers / Engineers / Contractors / Concessionaires) directly from onsite, through digital reporting of daily and monthly defects, submission of geo-tagged and time-stamped photos for inspections and digital uploading of test results.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2814 ANSWERED ON 12.08.2026 ASKED BY SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE REGARDING CONDITION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

State / UT – wise length of National Highways (NHs) in poor / damaged condition reported during the last three years: -

Sl. No.	State	Length in Km		
		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Andhra Pradesh	125	222	196
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	37	54
3	Assam	48	85	82
4	Bihar	6	7	10
5	Chhattisgarh	0	27	7
6	Gujarat	32	210	408
7	Himachal Pradesh	11	7	29
8	Jharkhand	8	6	47
9	Karnataka	3	16	21
10	Kerala	3	3	44
11	Madhya Pradesh	119	285	237
12	Maharashtra	160	152	145
13	Manipur	18	22	26
14	Meghalaya	67	50	41
15	Mizoram	57	35	34
16	Nagaland	6	2	1
17	Odisha	1	15	11
18	Punjab	0	0	53
19	Rajasthan	203	165	252
20	Sikkim	7	27	5
21	Tamil Nadu	82	118	37
22	Telangana	26	15	61
23	Tripura	12	32	34
24	Uttar Pradesh	14	78	19
25	Uttarakhand	1	2	4
26	West Bengal	138	34	90
27	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	45	28	25
28	Delhi	0	0	19
29	Jammu & Kashmir	58	22	25
