

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2951**  
ANSWERED ON 04<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2018

**NH CORRIDORS**

2951. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has a network of more than one lakh kms. of National Highways, but it lacks scientific road network pattern and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether 27 vertical and horizontal National Highway corridors intersecting one another at every 250 kms. have been constructed by the National Highways Authority of India and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether most of the roads in these corridors are of one lane or two lane and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to convert these roads into four lane roads and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to improve connectivity in each area besides improving highway connectivity with major ports of the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI MANSUKH L.MANDAVIYA)

(a) The total length of National Highways (NHs) in the country is about 1,20,144 km. State roads are declared as new NHs from time to time on the basis of well established principles; the criteria for State roads for declaration as new NHs include roads running through length / breadth of the country, connecting adjacent countries, National Capitals with State Capitals / mutually the State Capitals, major ports, non-major ports, large industrial centers or tourist centers, roads meeting very important strategic requirement in hilly and isolated area, arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby, roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions (other than strategically important ones), achieving a National Highways grid of 100 km, etc.

(b) to (e) The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) had made a preliminary attempt in identification of primary NH network comprising of 27 North-South and East-West grids for total length of about 38,700 km with average network spacing of about 250 km.

However, declaration of State Roads as new NHs are done from time to time keeping in view the requirements of connectivity, inter-se priority and availability of funds. Further, decision for upgradation of existing NH Network to 4-lane standards are taken depending upon the traffic density, terrain type, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

The Ministry had taken up detailed review of NHs network with a view to develop the road connectivity to Border areas, development of Coastal roads including road connectivity for Non-Major ports, improvement in the efficiency of National Corridors, development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors and Feeder Routes along with integration with Sagarmala, etc., under “Bharatmala Pariyojana”. Under this proposal, the Ministry has identified stretches for development of about 26,200 km length of Economic Corridors, 8,000 km of Inter Corridors, 7,500 km of Feeder Routes, 5,300 km Border and International connectivity roads, 4,100 km Coastal and Port connectivity roads, 1,900 km Expressways, National Corridor Efficiency improvement by development of ring roads around 28 cities, decongestion of about 125 choke points and 66 congestion points, development of 35 nos. of Multimodal Logistics Parks.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the proposal for investment approval for Phase-I of “Bharatmala Pariyojana” during its meeting held on 24.10.2017. “Bharatmala Pariyojana” Phase-1 includes development of about 9,000 km length of Economic corridors, about 6,000 km length of Inter-corridor and feeder roads, about 5,000 km length of National Corridors Efficiency improvements, about 2,000 km length of Border and International connectivity roads, about 2,000 km length of Coastal and port connectivity roads, about 800 km length of Expressways and balance length of about 10,000 km of roads under National Highways Development Project (NHDP). The programme is targeted for completion in 2021-2022.

The Ministry has also taken up development of NHs/roads under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North East Region (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package of Roads, Special Programme for Development of Roads in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, National Highways Interconnectivity Improvement Project (NHIIP), etc.

Development of about 340 km length of NH / roads have been completed for providing connectivity to major ports in the country under NHDP Phase-I and other programmes. Further, road connectivity of about 17.2 km to International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Vallarpadam in Kerala has also been completed. Two projects in about 9.35 km length (balance portion of Mormugao Port Road and Vishakhapatnam Port Road) have been awarded and work is in progress.

Apart from this, the balance portion of Chennai Ennore Port Road project in about 0.9 km length is in progress.

The project from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal was held up due to litigation. It has since been terminated. Initiatives have been taken up for restructuring of the project, change in alignment and preparation of Detailed Project Report.

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