

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4513
ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2018

FUNDS FOR MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

4513. SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the allocation towards maintenance of roads and highways has been reduced in the budget for the year 2018-19;
- (b) if so, the reasons for reduction in allocation towards maintenance of National Highways despite it already being considerably low at 4% of the total budget of the Ministry;
- (c) whether the Government imposed penalties on contractors and engineers for poor quality repair, construction and maintenance; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) and (b) The outlay for Maintenance and Repair (M&R) of National Highways (NHs) is about Rs. 2,917.12 crore as per the Demands for Grants of the Ministry for 2018-19 as compared to the outlay of Rs. 2,875.75 crore earmarked during 2017-18 at Revised Estimate (RE) stage.

(c) and (d) The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process, which is done by the contractor/concessionaire as per provisions made in the Contract/ Concession Agreements. Adequate provision regarding maintaining standard of road quality and imposition of penalty in case of default are there in the contract for poor quality repair, construction and maintenance. Whenever any complaints of irregularities/ corruption in works on NHs come to the notice of the Government, detailed investigations are carried out in such cases and disciplinary actions are taken up in accordance with Central Vigilance Commission guidelines; further, necessary actions are also taken up towards execution of rectifications / corrective works as per the provisions of the Contract / Concession Agreements.

Various initiatives taken towards prevention of corruption and bringing in more transparency and accountability in highway sector include adoption of Integrity Pact, engagement of National Level Project Monitors (NLPMs), etc.
