

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5334

ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2019

KUTHIRAN TUNNEL PROJECT

5334. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of work on Kuthiran Tunnel project in Kerala;
- (b) the specifications of Kuthiran Tunnel like total length, number of lanes, operating speed, tunnel clearance, dimensions, etc.;
- (c) the date on which the work of the tunnel started along with the details of the company involved in execution of the project;
- (d) the estimated cost of the project along with the funds utilisation during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (e) the number of times when the work got interrupted on the project along with the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the tunnel is likely to be opened for public transportation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) to (d) The Kuthiran tunnel is part of 6-lane project of Vadakkenchery- Thrissur stretch of NH-47 in the State of Kerala which was awarded to M/s Thrissur Expressway Limited on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) Basis at a grant of about Rs. 244 crores. The civil work in the stretch from Vadakanchery to Thrissur was started in September, 2012. However, the tunnel work was started in May, 2016. Kuthiran tunnel has been designed as 3-lane twin tube tunnel with an approximate length as 960 m, tunnel clearance as 5.5 m and operating speed as 80 kmph. At present, 83% physical progress has been achieved in the project. As far as Kuthiran tunnel is concerned, the same has been constructed except for minor works in tunnel tube on one side and approaches due to non-availability of land and delay in Forest & Wild life Clearance.
- (e) & (f) The tunnel works was interrupted 16 times by the local residents between May 2016 to January 2017 for want of compensation against the damages caused to their properties at the time of drilling and blasting operations. The project is now targeted for completion by May, 2020.
