

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2730
ANSWERED ON 22ND DECEMBER, 2022**

CONSTRUCTION WORK ON NH-20

†2730. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any legal action has been taken by the Government so far against the agencies found responsible for using substandard material for construction of National Highways (NHs);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the quality of materials being used in the construction of Bakhtiyarpur-Rajauli NH (NH-20) under Nalanda district and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to order an enquiry against the construction agency allegedly involved in sub-standard construction work on the said NH and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether protection of trees along with sprinkling of water being ensured along the construction of the said NH and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) and (b) All efforts are made to ensure that the National Highways (NHs) are constructed as per quality standards specified in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways / Indian Roads Congress (IRC) specifications and codes. Unless the roads are constructed as**

per the specifications, the contracts are not treated as complete. To ensure the construction quality, Consultants (Authority's Engineer/ Independent Engineer) are appointed by the Ministry and its executing agencies for day to day supervision of the works at site. Deficiencies, if any, observed during such examination / supervision are brought to the notice of the Concessionaires / Contractors for taking up necessary corrective measures.

(c) and (d) A team of Independent Engineer appointed by NHAI for the project "Construction of Bakhtiyarpur-Rajauli section of NH-20 under Nalanda district" regularly checks and tests the quality of materials used in construction of the project. Officials of NHAI also undertake inspections on interim basis and ensure adherence of conformity of quality of materials used in construction as well as the work done by the Concessioner with stipulated requirements.

(e) The concessionaire undertakes routine maintenance works, including sprinkling of water on the trees along the project highway as a part of the project.
