

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 362
ANSWERED ON 08TH DECEMBER, 2022
ACCIDENTS ON NHs DUE TO ANIMALS**

**362. SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:
MS. DIYA KUMARI:**

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the issue of human-animal conflict on National Highways (NHs) and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (b) whether the Government has any alternative to the shrubbery planted along NHs that attracts animals on the road for grazing and thereby leading to accidents and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to prevent accidents on NHs caused due to human-animal conflict; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be implemented?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. It is not uncommon to find animals intruding into high speed National Highways and getting entangled, leading to loss of animal life and damages to the vehicles. Government is following two pronged approach to minimise such human animal conflicts on National Highways. One is avoiding areas like wildlife sanctuaries, reserve forests with higher possibility of animals crossing the Highway, even at the cost of following a longer realignment/bypass. The other is provision of fencing, footpaths with guard rails in built up locations which also deter animals from entering onto highways, use of shrub species which is not suitable as feed for animals which distracts animals like thorny bushes etc., in median plantation. The extant guidelines of the Ministry also provide for provision of depressed wide

medians wherever land is available so that the shrubs can be avoided in the median. All these aspects are duly considered while preparing the National Highway development projects and are also cross checked during the road safety audit at different stages. As this is an ongoing activity which is part and parcel of National Highway development process, no specific time frame can be indicated for this.
