GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 67 ANSWERED ON 2nd FEBRUARY, 2023

CONDITION OF ROADS

67. DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA: SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE: DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE: SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government maintains a regular data with regard to road worthy condition of National Highways (NHs) in the country in terms of quality etc. and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is true that there have been several instances in last few years where quality of newly constructed NHs was found lacking as some of these NHs got damaged in just few days after inauguration and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details of cases of alleged irregularities in road construction reported during the last five years, year and project-wise;

(d) whether the Government has taken the steps against officials found responsible for construction poor roads and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the government is taking any steps to reduce and prevent such irregularities in construction of highways and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of roads in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The conditions of National Highways (NHs) are assessed from time to time by the Ministry and its various executing agencies such as National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), Public Works Departments(PWDs)/ Road Construction Departments(RCDs)/ Corporations of State Governments/ Union Territories(UTs) and works for development and maintenance of NHs are taken up as per inter-se priority, traffic density and availability of funds to keep the NHs in traffic-worthy condition.

(b) No such instances of NHs getting damaged in just few days after inauguration have come to notice of the Ministry.

(c) to (f) Addressal of complaints and deficiencies in construction of National Highways and corrective measures taken thereof is a continuous process. Various steps are taken by the Government to monitor and check the construction quality of National Highways (NHs). All NHs are constructed as per quality standards specified in the Ministry and Indian Roads Congress (IRC) specifications and codes. This is ensured by appointment of consultants as Authority's Engineer/ Independent Engineer for day-to-day supervision of implementation of quality assurance/control as specified in contract/ concession agreement. Officials of Ministry, NHAI, NHIDCL, BRO, PWDs/ RCDs/ Corporations of State Governments/ UTs also undertake inspections from time to time. The sub- standard works found, if any, are got rectified and re-laid as per specifications. In case of any defaults, actions against defaulting agencies are taken as per the provisions of agreements.

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