GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1235 ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY 2023

MAINTENANCE OF NHs

1235. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL: MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE: SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented stringent measures to ensure maintenance and upkeep of the old road infrastructure on National Highways (NHs) of West Bengal, Bihar and Amravati of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated and spent on maintenance of highways/roads during the last four years by National Highways Authority of India(NHAI), NH-wise;
- (d) whether any assessment has been carried out by the NHAI to ensure the structural robustness of National Highway infrastructure, particularly of the old bridges in Hooghly, West Bengal and Amravati to meet the road safety norms;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether mining rules, road safety audit are being ignored and work is not being carried out as per the rules on National Highway projects in Bhagalpur and Amravati under the construction by MoRTH, NHAI;
- (g) if so, whether the Government proposes to investigate it; and

(h) the details of the report of road safety audit conducted on National Highway projects in Bhagalpur and Amravati by the MoRTH, NHAI?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

Maintenance and upkeep of National Highways (NHs) is a a) & b) continuous process. National Highways are maintained through different mechanisms in different sections of NHs such as by concessionaire/ contractor during construction and operation/ defect liability period cum maintenance period, performance based maintenance contract and various types of routine/ preventive/ emergency repair works. The condition of existing road is assessed through visual inspection supported by Network Survey Vehicle and Falling Weight Deflectometer surveys and necessary repair/rehabilitation works are carried out. In addition, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has developed its own App named NHAI One App for inspection of roads. These measures are being followed on all National Highways including those in the States of West Bengal & Bihar and Amravati of Maharashtra.

c) The details of expenditure incurred by NHAI during last 4 years on maintenance and repair are as under:

Financial Year	Expenditure incurred on M&R (Rs. in Cr.)
2019-20	1935.63
2020-21	3662.06
2021-22	3577.89
2022-23	4424.65

Funds are allocated and spent on state and project wise and not on NH wise.

d) & e) Bridge expert of concessionaire/ contractor as well as IE/AE teams conduct survey of bridges on regular interval to assess health condition of the old bridges & structures. If any bridge/

structure is found to be in distressed/ dilapidated condition, professional expert from renowned institutes like IITs, NITs are engaged for inspection and advice. Based on such condition assessment further repair/ rehabilitation/ retrofitting of such bridges & structures are undertaken.

f) to h) As per contract/ concession agreement, it is the responsibility of the contractor/ concessionaire to procure all applicable permits for implementation of the project including permits for mining of stone boulder, sand, moorrum, etc. Road safety audit are conducted on NH projects as per the provisions of contract/ concession agreement and guidelines of Ministry in Bhagalpur and Amravati districts. Based on the findings of the road safety audit, necessary corrective measures have been undertaken in various projects in Bhagalpur & Amravati districts such as Khagaria – Purnea section of NH-31, Munger – Bhagalpur – Mirzachauki section of NH-53, Talegaon – Amravati Sections of NH-53 from km 50.0 to 166.0, Amravati – Chikili (Pkg-I) from km 166.0 to 220.0, Construction of flyover at Y-Junction in Rahatgaon in front of Hotel Gauri Inn Amravati, etc.
