

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2356
ANSWERED ON 03RD AUGUST, 2023**

UPGRADATION TO NH

2356. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration for conversion of State Highways to National Highways and if so, the details thereof including Odisha?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

State roads, including State Highways (SHs), are declared as National Highways (NHs) from time to time on the basis of well established principles. The important criteria for declaration of NHs include the following: -

- i. Roads running through length / breadth of the country.**
- ii. Connecting adjacent countries, National Capitals with State Capitals / mutually the State Capitals, major ports, non-major ports, large industrial centers or tourist centers.**
- iii. Roads having important strategic requirement in hilly and isolated area.**
- iv. Arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth.**

- v. Roads which help in opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly region.**
- vi. Roads contributing towards achievement of National Highways grid of 100 km.**
- vii. Synergy with PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP).**

The Ministry keeps on receiving proposals from various State Governments / Union territories (UTs), including from the State Government of Odisha, for declaration / upgradation of State roads, including SHs, as new NHs. Decisions are taken based on the fulfillment of the criteria, requirement of connectivity, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Total length of NHs in the country has increased from about 91,287 km in March, 2014 to about 1,46,145 km at present, including increase in length of NHs in the State of Odisha from about 4,550 km in March, 2014 to about 5,897 km at present.
