

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 76
ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2023**

CHAR DHAM PROJECT

76. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted a geological assessment of the areas falling under the Char Dham highway project and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware that a large number of residents have lodged complaints with regard to the development of cracks in houses and drying up of water sources caused by the tunnel construction and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the damage caused by the construction activities under the project and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) whether the Government is reviewing alternatives of replacing the Char Dham Highway project and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, sir. THDC India Limited (THDCIL) has been appointed to study landslide susceptibility areas and to suggest mitigation measures for the roads being developed under the Chardham highway project. Their scope of services inter-alia includes geological survey also.**

(b) Yes, sir. Complaints were received regarding development of cracks in houses at Chamba tunnel site on National Highway 34. The committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Director, Uttarakhand Space Application Centre (USAC) by the State Government of Uttarakhand did not attribute the cracks in houses to the tunnel construction.

(c) National Highway construction activities of Chardham Project are being reviewed/monitored by a High Powered Committee (HPC) for non-strategic roads (Rudrarprayag – Gaurikund and Dharasu Bend – Jankichatti) and an oversight Committee for strategic roads (Rishikesh – Mana, Rishikesh – Gangotri and Tanakpur – Pithoragarh) constituted as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(d) No, sir. Chardham National Highway projects are in advanced stage of completion and are being implemented as per stipulations of Hon'ble Supreme court.
