GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2998 ANSWERED ON 21st December, 2023

QUALITY OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION

2998. KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड्क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to ensure the quality and durability of road construction and maintenance in North-Eastern region;

(b) whether there are any plans to introduce modern technology and digital solutions in road management and toll collection to improve efficiency and transparency and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of any public-private partnerships or collaborations aimed at accelerating road infrastructure development in North-Eastern region?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is primarily responsible for development, maintenance and management of National Highways (NHs) in the country including those in North Eastern States. NH works are carried out in accordance with the standards specified in the Indian Road Congress (IRC) Codes, Ministry's specification and other relevant international codes of practices. The NH development and maintenance works are regularly supervised through Authority's Engineer (AE)/ Independent Engineer (IE), supervision consultant, etc. Field officers and senior officers of various executing agencies like State Public Works Departments (PWD), National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), Border Roads Organisation (BRO) and senior officers of Ministry's headquarters (HQ) inspect and monitor the NH works to ensure their quality, durability and timely completion.

(b) Modern technologies like Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) based FASTag for toll collection, Electronically controlled Paver Finishers / intelligent compaction equipment for construction of Highways, online data base management systems for project monitoring are used for construction and maintenance of National Highways to improve their efficiency and transparency.

(c) NH works including those in North-eastern region are implemented on various modes like Item Rate Contract, Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) and other Public Private Partnership (PPP) like Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM), Build Operate Transfer (BOT), etc. At present 3 numbers of works covering a length of 331 km at a cost of Rs.5,542 crore have been taken up on PPP mode in North-eastern region.

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