

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1041
ANSWERED ON 08TH FEBRUARY, 2024

CONDITION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN NORTHEASTERN REGION

1041. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the deplorable conditions of National Highways in Northeastern States, especially NH-15, NH-37 and NH-39, given their poor maintenance and large number of potholes and if so, the details of the maintenance activities undertaken for these highways and the funds allocated for the same and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the fact that the specific climatic conditions and topography of the Northeastern region poses unique challenges to the functionality, safety and maintenance of the national highways; and**
- (c) if so, the details of appropriate steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government for addressing these region-specific maintenance issues and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) Damages take place on National Highways (NHs) over a period of time due to passage of axle loads and climatic effects. Damages also occur to NHs due to natural calamities like heavy rains, floods, landslides, earthquake, etc. Development and maintenance/repairs of NHs is a continuous activity which include repair of potholes and rectification of other damages to pavement. Expenditure of Rs 1552 Crore has been incurred for Maintenance & Repairs of NHs in North East states during last three years. In order to ensure that none of the sections of National Highways are left without contractor to maintain the road in traffic worthy condition, Ministry has put in a place**

a mechanism of Performance Based Maintenance Contract (PBMC) and Short Term Maintenance Contract (STMC) from the current Financial Year.

(b) & (c) Development, Maintenance and Safety provisions of any section of NH including those located in North Eastern region are designed as per relevant Indian Roads Congress standards / guidelines and MoRTH policy guidelines. Special care is taken for slope protection measures, drainage etc., considering long rainy season in North Eastern (NE) region, fragile hill slopes, etc.
