GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 883 ANSWERED ON 17^{TH} SEPTEMBER, 2020

INCIDENTS OF BRIDGE COLLAPSE

883. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of bridge collapse at Mahe bypass on NH-66 in Kerala and the corridor collapse on NH-248A happened due to deficiencies in quality of work by concessionaires;
- (b) if so, the action taken against these concessionaires;
- (c) the action taken against the officials found responsible for such faults including status of recovery of cost from these officials and the concessionaires; and
- (d) the steps taken for commencement of work within the stipulated time limit after the work is assigned to the concessionaire including withdrawal, black listing, penalties etc. to avoid inordinate delays in completion of project?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) 4 Girders of the Major Bridge (km 174+150) at Mahe

bypass on NH-66 in the State of Kerala collapsed on 26.08.2020. National Institute of Technology (NIT), Calicut has initiated the investigation of reasons responsible for it. On22.08.2020, an accident occurred on NH-248A in Gurgaon in the State of Haryana resulting in collapse of the spine of the span P 10 - P 11 of flyover. A committee constituted by NHAI has initiated investigation of reasons for collapse.

Regarding the collapse of Major Bridge at Mahe (b) Bypass, NHAI has issued Show Cause notices to Contractor, Authority Engineer, Safety Consultant, Design Consultant & IIT Chennai as Proof Consultant (engaged by Contractor). Vice President (Projects) of the Contractor was removed from the project. Team Leader and Bridge Engineer of Authority Engineer were demobilised from the work and debarred from engagement in any NHAI projects for a period of 2 years. Further, regarding collapse of span of flyover on NH-248A, NHAI has issued Show Cause notices to Concessionaire. Authority, as an interim action has disallowed Concessionaire along with other promoter (s) from participating in NHAI bids (directly or in association/JV) with immediate effect. NHAI has also issued show cause

notices to Independent Engineer, Design Consultant & Associate Design Consultant engaged by Concessionaire. Authority, as an interim action has disallowed Design Consultant & Associate Design Consultant from taking up/associating in NHAI projects (directly or in association/JV) with immediate effect. Team Leader cum Senior Bridge Engineer & Senior Quality cum Material Expert of Independent Engineer were demobilized from the site and debarred from engagement in any NHAI projects for a period of 2 years.

- (c) Independent Investigation has been initiated by NIT, Calicut and a committee consisting of four experts for incidents on Mahe bypass and NH-248A respectively. Further action will be decided based on the received replies to the show cause notices and investigation reports.
- (d) The action for timely completion of project is taken in accordance with respective Contract/Concession Agreements.
