

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 331
ANSWERED ON 18TH MARCH, 2021**

CHAR DHAM ALL-WEATHER ROAD PROJECT

***331. SHRI AJAY BHATT:**

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds allocated in the current year for Char Dham all-weather road project in Uttarakhand;**
- (b) the total estimated cost of this project and the time by which it is likely to be completed;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to engage Border Roads Organisation in the execution of this project and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether any decision has been taken on the demands of the State Government and other stakeholders for changes in the route and inclusion of additional routes in this project; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 331 FOR ANSWER ON 18.03.2021 ASKED BY SHRI AJAY BHATT REGARDING CHAR DHAM ALL-WEATHER ROAD PROJECT.

(a) & (b) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H) have taken up widening and improvement of 825 km (existing 889 km) of National Highways (NHs) for providing faster and safer road connectivity from Rishikesh to Janki Chatti (Yamunotri), Gangotri, Gaurikhund (Kedarnath) and Mana (Badrinath) including Tanakpur to Pithoragarh section of Kailash-Mansarovar route in the State of Uttarakhand at a estimated cost of Rs.12072 crore. In the current financial year, Rs.2000 crore has been allocated for development of NHs in the State of Uttarakhand, which includes expenditure being incurred on these roads. The project for development of road connectivity to Char Dham was initially targeted for completion by March, 2020. However, the schedule date of completion of the project has been delayed mainly due to litigation in the Hon'ble NGT and Hon'ble Supreme court by the petitioner, namely, Citizens for Green Doon. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 08.08.2019 constituted a High Power Committee (HPC) and prescribed terms of reference to look into the environmental and other related issues. The HPC submitted its recommendation during June, 2020 and December, 2020, which were not unanimous due to differences of opinion among the members regarding the width of the road being constructed. The matter is still subjudice in Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(c) Yes Sir. Border Roads Organisation has been engaged for execution of NH-58 from Helong to Mana Village, NH-94 from

Agrakhal to Dharasu and NH-108 from Dharasu to Gangotri under Char Dham.

(d) & (e) No request has been received from the State Government either for changes in the route or inclusion of additional routes in this project.
