

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3745
ANSWERED ON 18TH MARCH, 2021**

WORK ON KUTHIRAN TUNNEL AND NH-544

3745. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of construction of Kuthiran tunnel and Mannuthi - Vadakkancheri stretch of NH-544;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the accidents happening between Kuthiran tunnel and Mannuthi-Vadakkancheri stretch of NH-544 due to the pending construction work and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the reasons for delay in completion of the said projects;**
- (d) whether there has been any conflict/differences amongst various Governments/departments/agencies regarding the said project; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The work of 6-laning of Vadakkenchery- Thrissur (Mannuthi) stretch of NH-47 in the State of Kerala (along with 3-lane twin tube tunnel at Kuthiran with an approximate length as 960 m) was awarded on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) Basis at a grant of about Rs. 244 crores. The civil work in the said stretch was started in September, 2012. However, the tunnel work was started in May, 2016. At present, the physical progress is 85.08% with expected completion by Sept 2021.

(b) Yes Sir. The Total no of accidents took place from the year 2015 to February 2021 is about 630 Nos.

(c) The project was initially delayed due to delay in land acquisition, protest by project affected people, restructuring of loan by concessionaire etc. Later, project was delayed due to requirement of additional land at entry and exist of tunnel, wildlife clearance and financial crisis of concessionaire etc.

(d) & (e) No Sir.
