

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.549
ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK IN KERALA

549. SHRI V.K.SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken several initiatives to increase the pace of road construction and plans to further speed up the road works in the remaining period of the current financial year and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to complete 11,000 km of roads before 31.03.2021 and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government was able to construct about 29 km per day of road during the current financial year till date and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government aims to complete the remaining road works in the State of Kerala in the current financial year and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) & (b) During the current financial year 2020-21, Ministry has set an overall target of 11,000 km for construction/development of National Highways (NHs) against which 7767 km of NHs have been constructed upto 31 December, 2020.

Several initiatives have been taken to increase the pace of road construction to ensure timely completion of the projects, such as:

- **holding regular meetings with other Ministries, Project Developers, State Governments and contractors to sort out issues of land acquisition, utility shifting, forest permission etc.**
- **all possible help extended to the Contractors, Concessionaires and developers in Road Sector by way of (i) additional time extensions (3-6 months), (ii) relaxation in Contract provisions for ensuring cash flow, (iii) direct payment to sub-contractors and release of retention money to augment cash flow, (iv) waiver of penalty in case of delay in submission of Performance Security (for new Contracts) as part of the recent initiative of Atmanirbhar Bharat duly considering COVID situation.**

(c) Average pace of National Highways constructed in the current financial year up to December, 2020 is 28.24 km per day.

(d) Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. In Kerala 318 km road is targeted to be completed during current financial year and so far 171 km has been completed up to December, 2020. All out efforts are being made to achieve this target.
