

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1667
ANSWERED ON 05TH DECEMBER, 2024**

CUTTING OF TREES ON HIGHWAYS

1667. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has submitted a proposal to the various District Green Committees to cut down trees near the flyovers for the identified Elevated Expressway Projects in States where the young, dense trees were planted by the Forest Department with funds from the NHAI, along with MoUs signed by the NHAI during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof along with funds sanctioned/spent therefor for each work and the results achieved therein; and

(c) whether the NHAI is ready to provide funds for the trees in a 1:10 ratio and if so, the details of funds provided thereof to States and the steps being taken to stop undertaking pay-and remove trees activities, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted District Green Committee to regulate the felling of trees in public land vide G.O.(Ms).No:39 dated 02.07.2021. In tune with this government order,

NHAI approaches the District Green Committee for obtaining permission for the felling of trees for highways projects.

(b) The details of all proposals sent to District Green Committees in Tamil Nadu along with funds sanctioned for each work is attached as Annexure-A.

(c) NHAI has provided Rs. 65.18 crore to Forest Department Tamil Nadu for raising plantation in 1:10 ratio as per recommendation of District Green Committee. Project wise details are available in Annexure-A.

ANNEXURE-A REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (B) & (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1667 ON 05TH DECEMBER, 2024 ASKED SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR REGARDING "CUTTING OF TREES ON HIGHWAYS"

Details of Proposals approved for raising plantation in 1:10 ratio as per recommendation of District Green Committee for construction of NH Projects in Tamil Nadu

Sl. No	Name of Project/ NH Stretch	Length (Km)	No. of trees cut / to be cut	Amount deposited with Forest Dept. towards for planting of trees in 1:10 ratio (Rs.)	Status / Results of such plantation
1	Six laning of Krishnagiri – Walajahpet section of NH-48 (old NH-46) from Km. 0/000 to Km.148/300	148.30	4532	558,847,90	Amount deposited to Forest Department. By utilizing the current monsoon, planting by Forest Department is in progress.
2	Four laning of Tambaram to Tindivanam section of NH-32 (Old NH-45) from	93.000	2273	30,159,520	Amount has been remitted to Forest Department.

	Km. 28+000 to Km. 121.000				Further plantation will be raised by Forest Department.
3	Four Laning of Mamallapuram to Mugaiyur section of NH-332A from Km. 0+000 to Km. 31+000 (PKG-I)	31.000	4000	22,512,100	Amount has been remitted to Green Committee account. Further, plantation will be raised by Forest department.
4	Four Laning of Mugaiyur to Marakkanam section of NH-332A from Km. 31+000 to Km. 62+000 (PKG-II)	31.000	3500	32,500,000	Amount has been remitted to Green Committee account. Further, plantation will be raised by Forest department.
5	Thoppur Mettur Bhavani Erode section of NH 544H	85.00	1054	6,500,000	Amount deposited to Forest Department for planting 10540 nos. of plants and plantation is yet to be done by Forest department.

6	4 lane Bangalore to Chennai Expressway (Walajahpet to Arakkonam) from Km 180/000 to Km 204/500 (Phase III) Package-II	24.500	3725	1,170,410	Amount has been remitted to DFO, Vellore
7	4 lane Bangalore to Chennai Expressway (Kanchepuram to Sriperumbudur) from Km 230/000 to Km 261/705 (Phase III) Package-IV	31.705	478	170,510	Amount has been remitted to DFO, Chengalattu
8	Double Tier 4-lane Elevated Corridor from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal	20.935	1658	-	An amount of Rs.4.69 crore has to be remitted to Forest Department to carry out 1:10 planting.
9	Access controlled Highway from Km17.56 to Km 61.540 of Chennai-Tirupati section of NH 716	44.000	4218	-	District Green Committee has requested to pay Rs.100 per plant as security deposit for 5 years. After ensuring the establishment of plantation in the project stretch, amount will get refund. Planting is in the scope of

					Concessionaire.
10	4 lane Bangalore to Chennai Expressway (Gudipala to Walajahpet from Km 156/000 to Km 180/000 (Phase III) Package-I	24.000	183	-	Planting 1830 trees is in the scope of Concessionaire.
11	4 lane Bangalore to Chennai Expressway (Arakkonam to Kancheepuram) from Km 204/500 to Km 230/000 (Phase III) Package-III	25.500	20	-	Planting of 200 trees is in the scope of Concessionaire.
12	Four Laning of Oddanchatram to Madathukulam section of NH-83	45.380	21	-	The trees were cut down for the construction of project and as a part of compensatory afforestation, trees were planted in the ratio of 1:10 under the scope of Concessionaire and the status report have been submitted to District Administration vide PIU Dindigul letter No.1614

13	Four laning of Vadugapatti to Therkuvenganallur section of NH-744	35.600	588	-	The trees were cut down for the construction of project and as a part of compensatory afforestation, trees were being planted in the ratio of 1:10 under scope of EPC Contractor
14	Four laning of Thirumangalam - Vadugapatti to section of NH-744	36.000	2147	-	The trees were cut down for the construction of project and as a part of compensatory afforestation, trees were being planted in the ratio of 1:10 under scope of EPC Contractor
15	Fourt laning of Ulundurpet Padalur section of NH-38- Elimination of blackspot VUP	1.400	13	-	The trees were cut down for the construction of project and as a part of compensatory afforestation, trees were planted in the ratio of 1:10 under scope of Contractor

16	Access controlled Greenfield Highway of 4 lane with paved shoulder from Marakkanam to Koonimedu (Design Chainage Km. 62+000 to Km. 77+200) of NH-332A in the state of Tamil Nadu under HAM (PKG-III)	15.200	2648	-	Tree enumeration has been completed. Further, tree felling proposal has been submitted to Distrct Green Committee for obtaining permission.
17	Access controlled Greenfield Highway of 4 lane with paved shoulder from Koonimedu to Azhiyur (Design Chainage Km.0 to K77+200 to Km. 108.047) of NH-332A in the state of Tamil Nadu under HAM (PKG-IV)	30.847	40	-	Tree enumeration has been completed. Further, tree felling proposal has been submitted to Distrct Green Committee for obtaining permission.
	Grand Total	723.367	71887	651,860,440	
