GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1788 ANSWERED ON 5TH DECEMBER, 2024

VEHICLE DAMAGE DUE TO FAULTY EXPRESSWAYS

1788. DR. MALLU RAVI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has conducted any thorough investigation into the instances of vehicle damage due to faulty expressway construction and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are specific technical flaws identified in the newly built expressways that have led to vehicle damage and if so the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against officers responsible for the wrong construction of expressways and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has any plans to address the urgent need for improvements in expressway construction standards and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether there have been reports from vehicle owners regarding the damages incurred due to expressway construction flaws and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) to (c) No specific investigation has been carried out regarding instances of vehicle damage on National Expressways (NEs) as a result of highway construction.
- (d) and (e) The Indian Roads Congress (IRC) publication IRC SP-99: 2023 (Manual for Specifications & Standards for Expressway) was revised in 2023 inter-alia with incorporation of the State-of-Art practices in the sector.

Damages to vehicles on the expressways are reported to primarily occur due to over speeding by vehicles, fatigue and unauthorized parking of heavy vehicles on road side. Accordingly, NHAI has taken following measures to curb accidents and damages to vehicles:

- (i) Issuance of online challans through VSDS (Vehicle Speed Detection System) placed on expressway in close coordination with State Police in order to curb the over speeding of vehicles;
- (ii) Removal of unauthorized parking with the help of State Administration;
- (iii) Provision of Rest Areas/Way side amenities at regular intervals on the expressway to reduce driver fatigue;
- (iv) Provision of adequate signages along the expressway to provide information to the road users;
- (v) Provision of Traffic Monitoring Camera (TMCS) at every Kilometer for monitoring of the expressway;
- (vi) Provision of variable message signs to provide road safety related messages and other information to road users;
- (vii) Regular patrolling of Expressway to remove any potential hazards including road side parking;
- (viii) Provision of Ambulances at every toll plaza to provide immediate help to accident victims.
