

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3391
ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2025**

SHEGAON-PANDHARPUR ROAD PROJECT

3391. SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:

**Will the MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Shegaon-Pandharpur road project (passing through Majalgaon, Dharur, Kaij, Kallamb, Yermala, Kuslamb) and the Ahemadpur-Ambajogai-Kaij-Patoda road project undertaken by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) are of substandard quality which is leading to hazardous driving conditions, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the steps taken to investigate the responsibility of the contractors and Supervising Officers considering the fact that hundred of accidents and fatalities occur on these roads due to poor construction and maintenance;**
- (c) whether the Government plans to give compensation to the families of commuters died in accidents due to substandard works, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government takes immediate action by fixing accountability of the concerned Officers, terminating the contracts and blacklisting/penalizing the agencies responsible for the poor quality of work, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the measures that are being taken to ensure strict monitoring, transparency and timely completion of such projects with high-quality standards to prevent further loss of lives?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)**

(a) The construction of Shegaon-Pandharpur section of National Highway (NH) – 548C having 448 km length and Ahemadpur-Ambajogai-Kaij-Patoda section of NH-548D having 168 km length has been implemented in phased manner as per Indian Roads Congress (IRC) guidelines and Standards and Specifications for Road and Bridge works. The NH stretches have been developed to two-lanes with paved shoulders carriageway except in forest stretches wherein the road is overlaid with bituminous layers without any widening of the existing carriageway. As on date, widening work could not be completed in 7 km length on NH-548C and 1 km length on NH-548D due to delays in land acquisition and other pre-construction activities. Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) has been directed to take action against agencies responsible for any sub standard work.

(b) to (c) Accidents have been reported on these NH stretches for the reasons attributed to over-speeding, rash driving, non-wearing of helmets, drinking and driving, etc. Government vide G.S.R. 163(E) dated the 25th February, 2022 has notified the Compensation to Victims of Hit and Run Motor Accidents Scheme, 2022 to provide compensation in respect of the death of, or grievous hurt to, persons resulting from hit and run motor accidents. The scheme is being implemented with effect from 1st of April, 2022. As per the scheme, a fixed sum of Rs.2.00 lakh is to be provided in case of death, and a fixed sum of Rs. 50,000 is to be provided in case of grievous hurt.

(d) to (e) In case of any defaults such as for substandard work or delays in project completion, action against Contractors/ Concessionaires is taken as per the provisions of the Contract/ Concession agreement, such as termination of contract agreement, levying of penalties/ liquidated damages, debarment, blacklisting, declaring as non-performance etc. Further, regular reviews and inspections are undertaken for monitoring and timely completion of works.
