

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 624  
ANSWERED ON 06<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025**

**NH-4 ROAD PROJECT IN ANDAMAN**

**624. SHRI. MANICKAM TAGORE B:**

**Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether NH-4 road project in Andaman has been delayed by over a year with only 250 km of the sanctioned length of 330.70 km could be completed as on date, if so, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) the manner in which the Government plan to address the issue of pending forest clearance for Stage-II involving 34.648 km of the project which has already resulted in a cost overrun of over Rs. 500 crore;**
- (c) the further action that has been taken against the EPC contractor for poor performance which has resulted in a penalty of only Rs. 10 crore despite being responsible for delays and cost overruns of over Rs. 1,000 crore;**
- (d) the measures being taken to ensure that the project is completed on time as per the revised deadline of March 2024; and**
- (e) the more impactful penalties that would be imposed on contractors who fail to meet their deadlines, considering the existing penalty of Rs. Five lakhs per day?**

## **ANSWER**

### **THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)**

**(a) As on date, a length of 291 Km out of total 330.70 Km length has been completed. Main reasons for delay in completion of the projects are as under:**

- i. Delay in forest clearance**
- ii. Limited availability of stone aggregate**
- iii. Covid-19 pandemic**
- iv. Limited working days**
- v. Poor performance of contractors**

**(b) The work of 24 Km (approx.) in package-III and 10 Km in package- IV was delayed on account of forest clearance. However, stage-II clearance has been received in November, 2023.**

**(c) Liquidity damages as per provision of Contract Agreement in package-II, package-IV and package-VIII has been imposed on the Contractor. In addition to above, the earlier contract of Major Bridge over Middle Strait has been terminated and the project has been reawarded.**

**(d) New contractor has been appointed for balance works of the contract in relation to the Major Bridge over Middle Strait Creek.**

**Package-III (from Baratang to Rangat excluding Humphrey Bridge and Jarawa-II) has been foreclosed and the project has been divided into two parts to expedite completion of balance works. Two new contractors have been appointed for executing the balance work.**

**The project is continuously monitored by the executing agency to ensure that the work is completed at the earliest.**

**(e) Penalties as per provision of the EPC contract agreement has been imposed on the contractors who failed to meet their deadlines.**

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