GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2000 ANSWERED ON 31ST JULY, 2025

AUDIT OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED NHs

2000. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted or plans to conduct any Nation wide audit of newly constructed National Highways (NH) that have shown early signs of damage;
- (b) if so, the details of NHs where such deficiencies have been reported, State-Wise including Kerala;
- (c) whether the Government maintains a database of highway stretches failing within two years of construction and their contractors, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures being taken to prevent such recurring damage across the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) All efforts are made to ensure that the National Highways (NHs) are constructed as per stipulated quality standards specified in

the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) specifications and codes. To ensure that highway construction adheres to stipulated quality standards, Consultants (Authority's Engineer/ Independent Engineers- AE/IE) are appointed by the executing agencies for day-to-day supervision of works at site. Officials of executing agencies undertake inspections from time to time and ensure adherence of conformity of quality of the work done by the Concessionaire/ Contractors with stipulated requirements.

Assessments of road conditions through Network Survey Vehicle (NSV) has been mandated for all NHs and Expressway works at the time of completion and every six months thereafter, which is monitored through electronic platform. NSV system for road condition assessment has been revamped using analytics for enforcement of contractual provisions during Operation and Maintenance (O&M) through dedicated central cell.

Deficiencies observed, if any, are brought to the notice of the Concessionaires/ Contractors for taking up necessary corrective/ remedial actions as stipulated in technical schedules of the Contract/ Concession Agreement or within a reasonable period as decided by the executing agency / AE/ IE.

The Government has additionally taken the following initiatives for improvement of quality control systems in implementation of NHs works:-

- Adoption of Automated & Intelligent /Machine-aided Construction (AI-MC) in NH projects;
- ii. Operationalization of a centralized system called NHAI One App for Monitoring and rectification of highway defects which enables geo-tagging of defects along with photographs;
- iii. Analysis of High-Resolution Imagery collected from Drone Surveys in Drone Analytics Monitoring System (DAMS) integrated

with Artificial Intelligence/ Machine Learning algorithms for periodic evaluation of progress and quality of ongoing NHs works from time to time;

- iv. Deployment of Mobile Quality Control Vans (MQCVs) equipped with Non-Destructive Testing Equipment on pilot basis in four States, namely in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Odisha and Karnataka, for diagnostic assessments of overall health and quality of works from time to time during project implementation phases;
- v. Deployment of Third Party Quality Auditors for independent quality audits of NH works on a case-to-case basis.

The Government through the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H) has established system of receiving complaints through Public Grievance Portal, various Social Media Platforms apart from complaints received from other sources including from Public Representatives, etc., about various issues concerning National Highways including issues related to quality of construction. The Government takes cognizance of these complaints, apart from regular review and monitoring of NHs projects towards ensuring that necessary corrective actions are taken up by the Concessionaires / Contractors for the NHs projects.

Actions against defaulting agencies are taken as per the provisions of the Contract/ Concession agreement in case of any defaults, such as termination of contract agreement, levying of penalties/ liquidated damages, debarment/ blacklisting, declaring as non-performers etc.

As per the information provided by the executing agencies, 81 Nos. of complaints regarding major deficiencies/ damages in NH works have been received/ found during the last five years (including 2024-25) and current Financial Year (excluding complaints received through various social media platforms/ public grievance portal); State/ Union

Territory (UT) wise details of such deficiencies including for the State of Kerala is annexed.

Necessary remedial works taken up for rectification of these deficiencies/ damages are at various stages of progress. Penal actions have been initiated against the Contractor/ Concessionaire / AE/IE, etc. as per relevant contractual provisions, wherever applicable.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2000 ANSWERED ON $31^{\rm ST}$ JULY 2025 ASKED BY SHRI BENNY BEHANAN REGARDING AUDIT OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED NHs.

State/ Union Territory (UT) wise List of projects where major deficiencies/ damages in NH works have been received/ found during the last five years (including 2024-25) and current Financial Year:

S. No.	State/ UT	No. of Projects	NH No.	Length of Projects (in Km.)
1	Kerala	06	NH-66	205.298
2	Andhra Pradesh	04	NH-71, NH-16,NH-9, NH-4	199.344
3	Bihar	02	NH-31, NH-333B	74.749
4	Chattishgarh	03	NH-130, New NH-30	126.525
5	Himachal Pradesh	01	NH-22 (New NH-05)	39.139
6	Haryana	03	NH-48, NE-4	61.7
7	Gujarat	05	NE-4, NH-754K, NH-48	118.713
8	Jharkhand	01	NH 75	34
9	Karnataka	05	NH-63, NH-48, NH-75	347.846
10	Arunachal Pradesh	01	NH-713A & NH-13	Protection works
11	Maharashtra	23	NH-06 (New NH-53), NH-48, NH-66, NH-160, NH-848, NH-753L, NH-752G, NH-548C, NH-161A, NH-753F, NH-752K, NH-752H, NH-753, NH-160, NH-17, NH-166G, NH-266	1287.292

S. No.	State/ UT	No. of Projects	NH No.	Length of Projects (in Km.)
12	Rajasthan	12	NE-4, NH-754K, NH-148N, NH-65, NH-89	325.173
13	Telangana	01	NH-161	48.963
14	Uttar Pradesh	03	Lucknow Ring Road, NH-76	92.618
15	Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand	02	NH-74	165.709
16	Uttarakhand	02	NH-125, NH-134 (Old NH-94)	44.589
17	West Bengal	03	NH-32, NH-6, NH-34	166.435
18	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	02	NH-4	25 Km, 4 Minor Bridges
19	Mizoram	01	NH-154 (New NH-6)	27.98
20	Tripura	01	NH-208	25.6