

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4819
ANSWERED ON 21ST AUGUST, 2025**

FAULTY CONSTRUCTION ON NH 752E/561A

†4819. 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 construction of the Paithan–Pandharpur section of National Highway (NH)–752E/561A particularly from Bodhegaon to Dighol (Beed district, Maharashtra) has not been carried out as per the laid down standards resulting into severe cracks and several fatalities in road accidents and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the provisions such as ‘change in scope’, ‘additional items’, ‘descope’ and ‘time extension’ in this project have been misused to provide undue benefits to the contractors with the connivance of the concerned officials and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is considering formation of an independent high-level committee to investigate the entire matter and also preparing any concrete plan to provide compensation to the victim families and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) The construction of Paithan–Pandharpur section of National Highway (NH)–752E/561A particularly from Bodhegaon to Dighol (Beed district, Maharashtra) has been taken up in two packages i.e. Paithan to Shirur having length of 55.937 km and Shirur to Kharda having length of 54.109 km. The construction works on this NH stretch have been carried out as per the quality standards & design specified by Indian Roads

Congress (IRC). However, cracks have been observed in about 540 number of concrete panels out of 48,908 number of concrete panels and the contractor has been directed to replace/repair these cracked panels. However, no fatalities have been reported on account of above cracked panels.

(b) The 'change in scope' and 'additional items' have been executed for an amount of Rs. 11.36 crores in Paithan to Shirur section against the total awarded civil cost of Rs.242.82 crore and Rs. 4.56 crores against a total awarded civil cost of 245.12 crores in Shirur to Kharda involving additional culverts, change in type of culverts from hume pipe culverts to concrete box culverts, four-laning in Patoda built-up section and bituminous pavement instead of concrete pavement in forest stretches have been undertaken as per the site conditions in accordance with provisions of the Contract Agreement. Additionally, 4.44 km length of Shirur to Kharda section overlapping with already sanctioned Chumbali to Manjarsunbha section of NH-548D has been 'de-scoped' in this project.

Further, 'time extension' has been granted upto 31.03.2022 on account of disputes on existing NH Right of Way (RoW), delays in acquisition of additional land and COVID-19 pandemic. No undue benefits have been given to the contractors against the provisions of contract agreement. As on date, work in 48.61 km length of Paithan to Shirur section and 48 km in Shirur to Kharda section have been completed. The balance stretches in both the sections, where work has not been executed due to disputes on existing NH RoW, are under consideration for deletion from the scope of work of the respective contractors.

(c) The quality audit of the project has been ordered and action would be taken as per the report. As regards to compensation to road accident victims, Government has issued notification dated 25th February, 2022 mandating the procedure for detailed investigation of road accidents, the Electronic Detailed Accident Report (eDAR) and its reporting, along with timelines for different stakeholders and for faster settlements of claims by the Motor Accident Claim Tribunal (MACT).
