

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2002
ANSWER ON 11th DECEMBER, 2025**

UNAUTHORISED OCCUPATION ON HIGHWAY LANDS

2002. Dr. Ganapathy Rajkumar P:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्रालय

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Supreme Court has recently directed National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to take effective steps to curb unauthorized occupation of highway lands and form surveillance teams of police officials to carry out patrolling;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the steps taken by NHAI to implement the SC direction and curb unauthorized occupation of highway lands?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) In the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) 1272 of 2019, Supreme Court has directed the Government to take up certain steps to curb the unauthorised occupations from National Highways (NHs) including formation of surveillance teams of Police Officials. In this regard, the Government has issued instructions to field officers of implementing agencies to constitute surveillance teams including local police in coordination with the Deputy Commissioners of Police/Senior Superintendent of Police (SSPs) for inspection of National Highways. Further, requested the State Governments for

providing necessary support and assistance to field officers of implementing agencies for prevention and removal of unauthorised occupation on National Highways.

Government in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, vide Gazette Notification S.O.4540 (E) dated 06.10.2025 has reconstituted the body of Highway Administration. The power of removal of unauthorised occupation under Section 26, 27, 36 & 43 of Control of NH (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002 has also been delegated to the District Magistrate for effective action against unauthorized occupation.

The Government has also issued Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) 07.08.2025 under the Highways Administration Rules, 2004 for identification, reporting and removal of unauthorised occupations on National Highways. Further, the responsibility of Contractor/Concessionaire/Authority Engineer/ Independent Engineer/Supervision Consultant as defined in the respective agreement has been reasserted. Additionally, provisions for periodical Drone Survey along with AI-based data analysis and Aerial Imaging have also been made for regular monitoring.

For involvement of citizens in reporting encroachment/ unauthorised occupation, provision of Rajmarg Yatra App and wider publicity of the same has been done through social media.
