

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3061
ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2025**

IRREGULARITIES IN NHAI PROJECT-DHULE-PIMPALGAON

3061. DR. BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognisance of multiple violations of the concession agreement by the concessionaire in the project: widening of existing 2-lane carriageway to 4/6-lane divided carriageway configuration for Dhule-Pimpalgaon (Km 265.00 – Km 380.00) section of National Highway-3 (NH-3) in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken cognisance that all Project Renewal (PR) cycles were conducted more than 18 months later than the scheduled timeline and that the fourth PR cycle was cancelled at a loss to the exchequer, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken cognisance of negligence and failure to enforce the concession agreement by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in the aforementioned project, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has instituted an enquiry to review the issue and if so, the details thereof including findings and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) whether the Government has received any representation from any Member of Parliament for the same; and**
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Four Laning of Dhule-Pimpalgaon section of NH-3 was completed in 2010 on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Mode. Currently the project is in Operation & Maintenance (O&M) phase and the BOT concession period is up to April 2026. No violations of the Concession Agreement during the Construction Phase has been observed. However, during the O&M phase, Concessionaire had defaulted in Periodical Renewal (PR) Overlays and various O&M activities.

(b) to (d) There has been delay in undertaking PR by Concessionaire due to its default/ force-majeure event. 1st renewable cycle was delayed for reason attributable to the concessionaire. 2nd PR cycle was delayed due to pandemic of COVID-19 and consequent delay in 3rd cycle of PR has occurred. An amount of Rs. 23.73 crore has been levied on the concessionaire so far. 3rd PR is under progress and damages for delay in this cycle will be determined after completion of the same. As regard to 4th cycle of PR, amount for 4th cycle has been retained in Escrow account by NHAI.

(e) & (f) Yes Sir. Representation regarding delay in undertaking periodical renewal, Tree Plantation, etc. of Dhule-Pimpalgaon section has been received from Hon'ble Member of Parliament (MP) of Dhule Lok Sabha Constituency. Hon'ble MP has been apprised of the current status of works & actions taken against the Concessionaire for the above defaults vide NHAI letter dated 27.03.2025 and 30.06.2025.
