

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1025
ANSWERED ON 5TH FEBRUARY, 2026**

COMPLETION OF PROJECTS UNDER BHARATMALA PAHSE-I

1025. ADV PRIYA SAROJ:

SHRI PUSHPENDRA SAROJ:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the average per-kilometre cost actually incurred under Bharatmala Phase-I as on January 2026, the original approved cost norms and the reasons for cost escalation, including land acquisition, design changes or contract variations;**
- (b) the status of port-connectivity corridors, the length commissioned against targets and the names and causes of delayed projects;**
- (c) the additional financial requirement arising from time and cost overruns, including the revised budgetary support sought and its impact on other highway projects;**
- (d) the number of contractors penalised, blacklisted or issued liquidated damages for unjustified delays and the amounts recovered; and**
- (e) whether the constructed stretches have undergone independent third-party safety and quality audits and if so, the key findings thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) The actual average per-kilometre civil construction cost is about Rs. 24 crores and Land acquisition including pre-construction activities is about Rs. 8.3 crores. At the time of approval, civil construction cost of about Rs. 4.9 lakh Crores and LA cost of Rs. 45,000 Crore was estimated to develop 34,800 km of National Highways in Bharatmala Phase-I.

The major reasons for cost escalation in Civil cost include higher lane configuration to provide superior connectivity, higher proportion of economic corridors and expressways, improvement in design standards over time and increase in price of raw material. Further, key reasons for increase in Land

Acquisition cost included higher determination of compensation, higher lane km compared to the initial plan and revision of Right of Way (RoW) norms.

Out of the approved length of 34,800 km of Bharatmala Pariyojana, Projects covering a total length of 26,425 km have been awarded and 21,783 km have been constructed as of December 2025. Bharatmala Pariyojana has been discontinued since November 2023 with only awarded projects being taken up for completion.

The actual expenditure incurred on Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I till 31st January, 2026 is Rs. 5,30,758.24 Crore.

(b) The details are annexed.

(c) The primary reasons for delay leading to time and cost overrun in National Highway (NH) projects are issues / bottlenecks relating to land acquisition, delay in getting statutory clearances / permissions, utility shifting, encroachment removal, law & order, non-availability of construction material/minerals, poor performance of Contractor / Concessionaire, and Force Majeure events like Covid-19 pandemic, heavy rainfall, floods, cyclone, landslides / avalanches, etc.

Cost-overrun is not incurred in all delayed projects. If delay is not attributable to the Contractor, price escalation as per defined formula is paid as per contract conditions, which may or may not result in additional cost, depending upon final value of price escalation determined on actual completion and final settlement of bills after expiry of the project contract/concession period. If delay is attributable to the Contractor, damages are imposed and there is no additional cost due to delay. 36 number of under construction major NH projects were terminated during last three FY inter-alia including delay in project implementation, prior to achieving any of the completion stages.

(d) The delay of the project is mainly due to delay in pre-construction activity including land acquisition and various clearances. During the project execution, delay also occurs due to contractor default, financial issues with the Concessionaire etc. The delays are analysed on case-to-case basis and remedial measures in accordance with the relevant contract/concession agreement are taken including levying of penalty/liquidated damages, termination of contract or settlement of the dispute through conciliation mechanism etc.

(e) Safety and Quality audits are conducted across the project life cycle i.e. during Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage, construction stage as also post

construction stage by mobilising the Road Safety Auditor, Road Safety Expert under Independent Engineer Contract, review of various provisions of the scope through engagement of pier review expert as also by engagement of independent experts like Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) / Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) etc. The findings of the experts are examined and due corrective action taken to resolve the safety/quality issues.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1025 ANSWERED ON 05TH FEBRUARY, 2026 ASKED BY ADV PRIYA SAROJ AND SHRI PUSHPENDRA SAROJ REGARDING 'COMPLETION OF PROJECTS UNDER BHARATMALA PHASE-I'.

S n o.	Name of Port	Name of Port connectivity project	Budget Provision under bharatmala/ NH(O) /any other scheme	Total length (in km)	Awarded cost (Rs in Cr.)	Appointed date	Project Status	Schedule completion date	Schedule Revised date of completion	Length commissioned	Physical progress	Reason for Delay
1	Visakhapatnam	4 - Laning from East Break Water up to Convent Junction section of NH-516C (Phase-1)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	3.488	35.79	01.04.2022	Work Completed	26.12.2022	30.11.2024	3.488	100%	<p>1. Discrepancy between provisions of Schedule-B and Schedule-H in respect of type of Pavement layers to be adopted for development of the Project Highway.</p> <p>2. Approval of COS for Major Railway Bridge</p> <p>3. Shifting of existing Railway Line from Km.1+350 to Km.2+800 (RHS) infringing the project Highway.</p> <p>4. Delay due to delay in traffic closure by VPA from Km. 2+800 to Km.3+800</p>
2	Visakhapatnam	Construction of Flyover /Underpass at Vizag Airport Junction to ensure flow of container trailers to & from MMLP setup at NH-16 in the state of Andhra Pradesh on EPC Mode	NH(O)	1.935	36.99	16.08.2023	Work in progress	13.02.2025	31.01.2026	Nil	91%	<p>1. Delay in issuance of NOC by irrigation department</p> <p>2. Cyclones</p> <p>3. Slow progress of work by the contractor</p>
3	Visakhapatnam	Improvement of 4 lane road to 6 lane road and 4 lane dedicated Port Roads for the Port connectivity road from Convent junction to Sheelanagar Junction section of NH-516C in the State of Andhra Pradesh on EPC	Bharatmala Pariyojana	9.58	50.165	14.02.2024	Work in progress	13.02.2026	31.05.2026	Nil	70.50%	<p>1. Cyclones</p> <p>2. Delay in shifting of pipelines by GAIL</p>

		Mode										
4	Kakinada	Construction of 4-lane highway from Samarlakota to Achampeta Junction (from Km. 0.000 to Km. 12.250) as part of Kakinada port to NH-16 connectivity in the State of Andhra Pradesh on EPC mode Under Bharatmala Pariyojana	Bharatmala Pariyojana	12.25	40.8	17.08.2023	Work in progress	15.08.2025	13.05.2026	Nil	82%	<p>1. Delay in handing over of Right of Way beyond Appointed Date + 180 days</p> <p>2. Delay in supply of pond ash</p> <p>3. Delay in issuance of No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) for Minor bridge at Km.8+763</p> <p>4. Delay due to removal of existing Bhagyanagar Gas Limited (BGL) pipeline crossings</p> <p>5. Delay in Navigation No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Irrigation Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh for Minor bridge cum Vehicular Underpass at Km.4+995</p> <p>6. Unprecedented rains between August 2023 to November 2024.</p> <p>7. Non-availability of construction materials due to Model Code of Conduct due to General Elections, 2024</p> <p>8. Montha Cyclone in Oct-Nov 2025</p>
5	Kakinada	Upgradation of Port Connectivity NH Configuration from existing 2-lane to 4-lane road from Achampeta Junction (NH-216) to Kakinada Anchorage Port Connecting Vakalapudi Light House (From Km. 0.000 to Km. 13.198) section of NH-516F in the State of Andhra Pradesh on EPC mode under Bharatmala Pariyojana	Bharatmala Pariyojana	11.098	90.2 / 79.26 (revised)	13.07.2022	Work in progress	12.07.2023	31.07.2026	Nil	72%	<p>1. Michaung Cyclone Dec 2023 (Force Majeure Event)</p> <p>2. Initial 6 months delay in mobilization of resources by Contractor</p> <p>3. Delay in Utility Shifting due to CoS-1 & Payment of supervision charges by the Authority</p> <p>4. Delay in shifting of Private pipelines in Port area</p> <p>5. Objection against normal drain by Govt./Private industries</p> <p>6. Change in mining policy of Govt. AP in 2023 & 2024</p> <p>7. Financial issues of Contractor</p> <p>8. Montha cyclone Oct-Nov 2025 (Force Majeure Event)</p> <p>9. 3.2 km is impacted due to COS-2 works for construction of load-bearing drains for port approaches and shifting of LT lines.</p>

6	Kakinada	Construction of 4-lane highway from Samarlakota to Achampeta Junction (from Km . 0.000 to Km. 12.250) as part of Kakinada port to NH-16 connectivity in the State of Andhra Pradesh on EPC mode Under Bharatmala Prariyojana	Bharatmala Prariyojana	12.25	408	1708.2023	Work in progress	15.08.2025	13.05.2026	Nil	82.13 %	<p>1. Delay in handing over of Right of Way beyond Appointed Date + 180 days</p> <p>2. Delay in supply of pond ash</p> <p>3. Delay in issuance of No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) for Minor bridge at Km.8+763</p> <p>4. Delay due to removal of existing Bhagyanagar Gas Limited (BGL) pipeline crossings</p> <p>5. Delay in Navigation No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Irrigation Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh for Minor bridge cum Vehicular Underpass at Km.4+995</p> <p>6. Unprecedented rains between August 2023 to November 2024.</p> <p>7. Non-availability of construction materials due to Model Code of Conduct due to General Elections, 2024</p> <p>8. Montha Cyclone in Oct-Nov 2025</p>
7	Krishnapatnam	Construction of six lane dedicated port road to Krishnapatnam Package-I from km.0+000 to km.18+000 on EPC mode in the state of Andhra Pradesh (Package-I)	Bharatmala Prariyojana	18.975	254.43	2012.2018	Work in progress	18.12.2020	30.06.2026	Nil	75.97 %	<p>The project was stalled from 19.01.2021 till 23.03.2023 due to certain disputes between the parties during the execution of the project primarily on account of transportation cost of pond ash, idling charges, discrepancy between Schedule-B & Schedule-H, Change of Scope, delayed/ unpaid payments and interest thereon etc. The disputes between the parties were settled on 23.03.2023 through CCIE.</p> <p>As per MoEF&CC Gazette Notification dated 25.01.2016, TPPs shall provide & bear the cost of loading & transportation of Pond ash for construction of NH projects.</p> <p>However, initially, APGENCO Power Plant at Nelaturu (Nellore) was not ready to bear the transportation cost of</p>

												<p>pond ash required for the project. The issue was resolved on 21.02.2024 as APPDCL in-principle accepted to supply the pond ash at free of cost and also to bear the loading and transportation charges for the subject project. APPDCL started supplying Pond ash to the site from 07.02.2024. Accordingly, EOT to the EPC Contractor was accorded upto 31.08.2025 and Settlement Agreement in this regard was signed on 02.05.2025.</p> <p>Again, APPDCL stopped the supply of Pond Ash to the site from 28.02.2025 onwards. Chairman, NHAI addressed CS, GoAP vide DO letter dated 09.06.2025 for supply of additional Qty of Pond ash free of transportation cost as requested by the EPC Contractor. Further, Secretary, MoRTH has also written DO letter dated 29.08.2025 to CS, GoAP for early resolution of the issue.</p> <p>Recently, M/s APGENCO on 13.09.2025 has issued purchase order for the supply of pond ash to a new agency. The Agency started supplying Pond Ash to the site from 15.12.2025. However, the supply of pond ash is very less & slow.</p>
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8	Krishnapatnam	Construction of 4-Lane access controlled highway from Chillakuru cross road to Turpu Kanpur (Part-I of Package-II) Km 0+000 (131+500 of NH-16) to Km.23+770 on New NH-516W including 6-Lane flyover and approaches on NH-16 (Length Km.1.050) and 6-Lane access controlled from Turpu Kanupuru to Port Southgate (Part-II of Package-II) from Km. 23+770 to Km. 35+015 on NH-516W in the state of Andhra Pradesh on HAM Mode Under Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I (Package-II)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	36.065	68.68	12.2023	Work in progress	06.12.2025	22.11.2026	Nil	46.60%	1. Force Majeure Event (Michaung Cyclone) and its wide-range impact (flood condition entire project alignment and its surroundings) Land Acquisition, Encroachment and other obstructions in ROW at site (30.695 km (85.11%) out of 36.065 km handed over on AD (Dec 2023) and balance length (in 7 bits) handed over by Jan 2025) 2. Work held up in the affected reaches (9.21 km out of 36.06 km) due to requirement of COS at site which were commenced on 01.03.2025 after directions of Chairman, NHAI (Additional 43 structures sought by WRD Department/VIP references/ Local Public Demand etc)
9	Krishnapatnam	Construction of four laning of Green field Road connecting North & South Industrial Cluster of Khandaluru creek near Krishnapatnam port at Thaminapatnam to Narikellapalle (Part-I from km 0+000 to Km 14+650) and Six laning of extension of Dedicated port road on NH-67 (Part-II from Km 18+000 to Km 19+300) in the State Andhra Pradesh under Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I on EPC Mode (Package-III)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	15.95	51.256	25.09.2023	Work in progress	24.09.2025	31.03.2026	Nil	74.49%	1. Force Majeure Event ((Michaung-2024 & Fengal Cyclones-2024) and its wide-range impact (flood condition entire project alignment and its surroundings) 2. Work held up due to additional structures required to be constructed under COS (requirement of Irrigation Department and local public demand) at site which were commenced on 01.03.2025 after directions of Chairman, NHAI. 3. Hindrance due to Land Acquisition at ROB location on A2 side, which was later cleared (during July-2025, approx length of 700mt) and is under construction.
10	Krishnapatnam	Six laning of Naidupeta Junction – Turpukrupur Section from Km.57.046 to Km.91.927 in the State of Andhra Pradesh on HAM under Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I (Package-IV)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	34.881	96.12	20.10.2023	Work in progress	19.10.2025	28.02.2027	Nil	39.50%	1. Force Majeure Event (Natural Disaster) and its wide-range impact (flood condition entire project alignment and its surroundings) 2. Work held up in the affected reaches (30.80km out of 34.88km) due to requirement of COS at site which were commenced on 01.03.2025 after directions of Chairman, NHAI (Additional 95 structures sought by WRD Department)

												ment/VIP references/ Local Public Demand etc). 3. Land Acquisition, Encroachment Removal, Tree felling permission, and other obstructions in ROW @ site.
11	Kakinada	Construction of 4 Lane Access controlled Highway from Vakalapudi Light House to Annavaram on NH-16 section of NH-516F from Km. 0.000 to Km. 40.621, on HAM under Bharatmala Pariyojana, Phase-1 in the State of Andhra Pradesh	Bharatmala Pariyojana	40.621	98.8	-	Work in progress	Agreement is yet to be signed. Appointed Date is yet to be declared	NA	Nil	-	NA
12	Paradip	4 to 8 laning of Chandikhole – Paradip Section of NH-53 (Old NH – 5A) from Km.0.00 to Km.18.00 in the State of Odisha (Package-1)	NH (O)	18	71.1	15.12.2023	Work in progress	14.12.2025	30.06.2026	Nil	89%	1. Shortage of supply of Flyash. 2. COS work under VIP references • 3. Land Acquisition issues. • Delay in utility shifting work
13	Paradip	4 to 8 laning of Chandikhole – Paradip Section of NH-53 (Old NH – 5A) from Km.0.00 to Km.18.00 in the State of Odisha (Package-2)	NH (O)	21	74.25	15.12.2023	Work in progress	14.12.2025	30.06.2026	Nil	87%	
14	Paradip	4 to 8 laning of Chandikhole – Paradip Section of NH-53 (Old NH – 5A) from Km.0.00 to Km.18.00 in the State of Odisha (Package-3)	NH (O)	21	76.25	15.12.2023	Work in progress	14.12.2025	30.06.2026	Nil	86%	

15	Paradip	4 to 8 laning of Chandikhole – Paradip Section of NH-53 (Old NH – 5A) from Km.0.00 to Km.18.00 in the State of Odisha (Package-4)	NH (O)	16.646	808.48	011.12024	Work in progress	31.10.2026	30.04.2027	Nil	24%	
16	Chennai Port	Construction of New Double Tier 4-lane Elevated Corridor from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal section of NH-48 from Km -0+342 to Km 4+604 (Package-1)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	4.95	915.00	231.12023	Work in progress	20.05.2026	16.11.2027	Nil	14.87%	
17	Chennai Port	Construction of New Double Tier 4-lane Elevated Corridor from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal section of NH-48 from Km 4.604 to Km 9.700 (Package-2)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	5.10	1015.00	231.12023	Work in progress	20.05.2026	16.11.2027	Nil	13.23%	
18	Chennai Port	Construction of New Double Tier 4-lane Elevated Corridor from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal section of NH-48 from Km 9.700 to Km 14.185 (Package-3)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	4.49	865.00	231.12023	Work in progress	20.05.2026	16.11.2027	Nil	13.69%	(i) Delay in handing over Cooum river boundary by WRD. (ii) Alignment being river bank, no-work could be taken up during monsoon period (iii) Limited working hours due to restrictions imposed by Traffic Police on movement of Heavy Construction Machinery through city roads.
19	Chennai Port	Construction of New Double Tier 4-lane Elevated Corridor from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal section of NH-48 from Km 14.185 to Km 20.593 (Package-4)	Bharatmala Pariyojana	6.41	775.00	231.12023	Work in progress	20.05.2026	16.11.2027	Nil	5.57%	
20	Belcheri	Sirsi – Kumta – Belcheri Port, NH766E and	Bharatmala	58.92	360.6	071.1	Work in progress	06.12.2022	30.04.2026	Nil	79.172)	Land Acquisition Court Case:

		NH766EE	Pariyojana			2.2020	ogress				%	3) ROW constraints and bridge works: 4) Force majeure events: 5) Tree cutting & Disposal permission from Forest Department:
21	Belekeri	Haveri – Yakambi – Sirsi Road 766E	Bharatmal Pariyojana	74.98	174	08.03.2022	Work in progress	07.03.2024	31.03.2027	NIL	16.79%	1) Delay in Stage-I- Forest Clearance: In-principle approval (Stage-I Forest Clearance) was granted by MoEF&CC on 26.09.2024. Working permission was issued by the Forest Department on 17.05.2025, and Stage-II Forest Clearance was obtained on 23.06.2025. 2) Encroachment within the ROW.
22	Honnavar	Road connectivity to Honnavar Port from Kasarkod on NH-66.	Bharatmal Pariyojana	4.58	87.5	05.12.2024	Work in progress	06.06.2026	06.06.2026	0	0	The project is being delayed mainly due to non-availability of encumbrance free land which needs to be handed over by Port Authority & GoK.
23	V.O. Chidambaram Port	Six Laning of Tuticorin Port Road section from Km 0.000 to Km 6.140 [Effective Length 5.160 Km] of NH-138	NH(O)	5.16	130.2	05.07.2023	Completed	04.07.2024	30.06.2025	5.16	100%	"(i) Unprecedented heavy rains & flood in project stretch. (ii) Unexpected delay in Public Utility Shifting beyond reasonable control of parties due to Model Code of Conduct of Lok Sabha Elections."
24	Shyama Prasad Port	Construction of six lane Elevated Kona Expressway from km.0.145 to km.7.337 of NH-117 in the state of West Bengal on EPC Mode	NH(O)	7.192	720.67	06.06.2024	Under Implementation	03.12.2026	31.12.2027	NIL	31.07%	Project progress has been hindered by the non-availability of traffic blocks/ diversion permission from the Police Authority/ State govt. for the construction of foundation in median of existing Kona Expressway along with the shifting of CESC cables in the length of 2 km from starting point of project inclusive of 7 nos. of U/G crossings.

25	Alang Port	Development of Port Road Connectivity of Trapaj-Manar Stretch Connecting Alang Port with NH-51 in the state of Gujarat	NHDP Phase IV	9.12	72.43	31.05.2022	Completed	Handed Over to GM B division on 17.05.2024, Gujarat State	17.05.2024	9.12 Km.	100%	NA
26	JNPT Port	6/8 laning of JNPT Project, Pkg-I	Port Connectivity	4.6	715.97	16th May 2016	Completed	15th May 2018	31.03.2022	4.6	100%	Delay in due to forest clearance. Delay in due to CIDCO land. Delay in due to Utility shifting. Delay in due to Covid-19. Delay in due to encroachment.
27		6/8 laning of JNPT Project, Pkg-II	Port Connectivity	18.3	871.94	16th May 2016	Completed	15th May 2018	31.03.2022	18.3	100%	
28		6/8 laning of JNPT Project, Pkg-III	Port Connectivity	11.1	758.46	16th May 2016	Completed	15th May 2018	31.03.2022	11.1	100%	
29		6/8 laning of JNPT Project, Pkg-IV	Port Connectivity	10.56	589.55	16th May 2016	Completed	15th May 2018	30.11.2020	10.56	100%	
30	Mormugao Port	Construction, Operation and maintenance of Balance Works for 4 laning of the stretch of NH-17B from Varunapuri Junction to Sada Junction from Km 13.100 to Km 18.300 and elevated road cum flyover cum RO B from Ravindra Bhavan Junction to gate no.09 of the MPT including its loop connectivity ramps in the State of Goa	Port Connectivity	7.91	397	14th October 2015	Completed	13th October 2018	27th January 2025	7.91	100%	NA

31	Vadhavan	Construction of 4 lane (expandable to 8 lane) expressway for the connectivity to proposed Vadhavan port (from Vadhavan Port to Tawa Village on NH 48 - Design length 32.180 Km) under NH(O) in the State of Maharashtra on EPC Mode	NH (O)	32	Project under bidding	NA	Project approved and technical bids opened.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
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