

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4386
ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2026**

WORKFORCE ON NHAI PROJECTS

4386. DR. RAJ KUMAR CHABBEWAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the majority of workers engaged in projects of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) reportedly come from about forty nine districts across eight States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and district-wise indicating the proportion of local versus migrant labour;

(c) whether all districts of Punjab, including Hoshiarpur are adequately represented in employment generated through projects of NHAI;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage hiring of local workers, provide skill training and ensure equitable regional distribution of employment opportunities in projects of NHAI in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Based on information collected from field offices pertaining to National Highways (NHs), it has been observed that 53 districts across 8 States contribute a major share of skilled and semi-skilled workers/labourers engaged in projects being implemented across the country. Details of States along with districts are placed at Annexure.

(c) & (d) While contractors/concessionaires have the right to engage workers as per their need, workers are generally engaged by contractors/concessionaires based on skill required for highway construction.

(e) The development and maintenance of National Highways, including projects implemented by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), are undertaken in an equitable manner across the country and generate significant direct and indirect employment opportunities. Skill development and capacity building of workers are promoted through various initiatives of the Government, including programmes implemented by the Government in Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Further, NHAI has envisaged a structured skill development and capacity building programme aimed at upgrading the skills of construction workers engaged in highway infrastructure projects primarily aimed at improvement in the quality of construction.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4386 ANSWERED ON 19th MARCH, 2026 ASKED BY DR. RAJ KUMAR CHABBEWAL REGARDING WORKFORCE ON NHAI PROJECTS.

S. No.	State	Districts
1	West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Malda ii. Nadia iii. Murshidabad
2	Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Champaran ii. Madhubani iii. Purnia iv. Saharsa v. Madhepura vi. Supaul vii. Gopalganj viii. Siwan ix. Saran x. Patna xi. Gaya xii. Jehanabad
3	UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Gorakhpur ii. Saharanpur iii. Kanpur iv. Bareilly v. Agra vi. Azamgarh vii. Varanasi viii. Prayagraj ix. Raibareli x. Mirzapur xi. Jaunpur
4	Jharkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Sahibganj ii. Gumla iii. Khunti iv. Ranchi
5	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jaipur ii. Bikaner iii. Dausa iv. Bharatpur

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Barmer vi. Jaisalmer vii. Jodhpur viii. Udaipur ix. Chittorgarh
6	Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bilaspur ii. Raipur
7	MP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Katni ii. Rewa iii. Chhatarpur iv. Panna v. Morena vi. Bhind
8	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Keonjhar ii. Sambalpur iii. Bargarh iv. Cuttack v. Baleswar vi. Bhadrak
