

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 69**  
ANSWERED ON 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2016

**SCIENTIFIC ROAD NETWORK PATTERN**

\*69. DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:  
SADHVI SAVITRI BAI PHULE:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has over one lakh kilometers of National Highways but there is no scientific road network pattern and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the National Highways Authority of India has prepared a grid of 27 horizontal and vertical National Highway corridors at a distance of every 250 km. criss crossing the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether most of the roads in the corridors are single or two lanes, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to convert them into four lane roads, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to improve connectivity in each region and also improve highway link to major ports of the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 69 ANSWERED ON 21.07.2016 ASKED BY DR. HEENA  
VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT AND SUSHREE SADHVI SAVITRI BAI PHULE REGARDING  
SCIENTIFIC ROAD NETWORK PATTERN**

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(a) The total length of National Highways (NHs) in the country is about 1,03,519 km. State roads are declared as new NHs from time to time on the basis of well established principles; the criteria for State roads for declaration as new NHs include roads running through length / breadth of the country, connecting adjacent countries, National Capitals with State Capitals / mutually the State Capitals, major ports, non-major ports, large industrial centers or tourist centers, roads meeting very important strategic requirement in hilly and isolated area, arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby, roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions (other than strategically important ones), achieving a National Highways grid of 100 km, etc.

(b) to (d) The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has made a preliminary attempt in identification of primary NH network comprising of 27 North-South and East-West grids for total length of about 38,700 km with average network spacing of about 250 km. However, declaration of State Roads as new NHs are done from time to time keeping in view the requirements of connectivity, inter-se priority and availability of funds. Further, decision for upgradation of existing NH Network to 4-lane standards are taken depending upon the traffic density, terrain type, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

The Ministry has approved “In-Principle” declaration of about 42,745 km length of State roads as new NHs subject to outcome of their Detailed Project Reports (DPRs).

(e) The Ministry has taken up development of NHs under various phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North East Region (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package of Roads, Special Programme for Development of Roads in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, National Highways Interconnectivity Improvement Project (NHIIP), etc.

The Ministry has taken up detailed review of NHs network with a view to improve the road connectivity to coastal / border areas, backward areas, religious places, tourist places, construction / rehabilitation / widening of major bridges and Railway Over Bridges (ROBs) / Railway Under Bridges (RUBs) on NHs, improvement of newly declared NHs providing connectivity to District Head Quarters, road connectivity towards integration with Sagarmala, Connectivity Improvement Program for Char-Dham (Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunothri & Gangotri in Uttarakhand) etc., under proposed new programmes. However, these programmes are yet to be formally launched.

Development of about 340 km length of NH / roads have been completed for providing connectivity to major ports in the country under NHDP Phase-I and other programmes. Further, road connectivity of about 17.2 km to International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Vallarpadam in Kerala has also been completed. Two projects in about 9.35 km length (Mormugao Port Road and Vishakhapatnam Port Road) have been awarded.

Apart from this, Chennai Ennore Port Road project in about 1.2 km length is in progress.

The project from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal was held up due to litigation. It has since been terminated.

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