

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3063
ANSWERED ON 6th AUGUST, 2026**

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

3063. SHRI RAJA A.

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

(a) the total number and the details of National Highway projects currently under construction in the State of Tamil Nadu and the number of these projects that are delayed beyond the stipulated timelines, project-wise;

(b) the details regarding causes of delays in National Highway projects in Tamil Nadu, such as cost escalation, environmental clearances, negligence of contractors, etc.; and

(c) the concrete and time-bound steps taken by the Government so far to ensure timely completion of the delayed projects in the State with details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) & (b) At present, 50 National Highway projects are under construction in the State of Tamil Nadu. Of these, 33 projects are under execution beyond their originally stipulated completion timelines. The delays are attributable to one or more of the following factors, depending upon the project:

i. land acquisition and Right of Way (RoW) related issues;

- ii. utility shifting and statutory/ railway/ forest/ environmental clearances;**
- iii. contractor-related issues such as inadequate resource mobilisation, slow progress and financial constraints;**
- iv. delay in procurement of construction materials such as borrow earth/fly ash;**
- v. change in project scope/design and other technical requirements;**
- vi. adverse weather conditions and other force majeure events; and**
- vii. local/site-specific issues including law and order, public demands and other implementation constraints.**

(c) The Government has taken various measures to facilitate timely completion of National Highway projects and to minimise delays in projects, including:

- i. Continuous coordination with the State Government and other concerned agencies for expeditious resolution of issues relating to land acquisition, utility shifting and statutory clearances.**
- ii. Regular review of project progress with all stakeholders at various levels, for timely resolution of implementation bottlenecks.**
- iii. Escalation of unresolved issues to appropriate forums such as the Project Monitoring Group (PMG) and PRAGATI for expeditious resolution.**

Based on experience gained from execution of NH projects, the Government has taken several measures to minimise the delay in future projects like:

- i. Award of works only after ensuring availability of at least 90% encumbrance-free Right of Way (RoW).**
- ii. Ensuring that major statutory clearances, approvals and permissions are obtained before award of works, to the extent feasible.**
