

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1762
ANSWERED ON 01ST AUGUST, 2024**

STANDARDS OF CONSTRUCTION OF NHAI

1762. MS IQRA CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the details of construction standards adopted by NHAI for National Highways such as engineering and construction material quality standards and subsequent maintenance;

(b) whether the quality of compaction, material, roughness index etc. has been compromised in the construction of Eastern Peripheral Expressway and Ambala-Yamunanagar-Haridwar Highway leading inconvenience to the commuters and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to conduct the quality assessment of the said roads and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The construction and maintenance of National Highways/Expressways is done as per specifications & standards published by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and Indian Road Congress (IRC) from time to time. Relevant codes/specification are namely Specifications for Road & Bridge

works-2013 (5th Revision), IRC:SP-112- Manual for Quality Control in Road & Bridge works, IRC:SP-73/84/87-Manual of Specifications and Standards for Two/Four/Six laning of highways and IRC:SP-99- Manual of Specifications and Standards for Expressways.

(b) The construction of Eastern Peripheral Expressway has been completed as per standard/specification of IRC/MoRTH without compromising quality of construction in terms of compaction, material, roughness index etc. The project was executed on Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) mode and construction was completed on 26.05.2018. The Defect Liability Period of the project was up to 10.11.2022. As on date, the project has been awarded to TOT Concessionaire and is maintained as per the conditions, specifications and obligations laid down in the Concession Agreement. Moreover, continuous monitoring of the project is done by Independent Engineer engaged on the project.

The Ambala-Yamunanagar section (Haryana) was constructed on Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) mode. The Defect Liability Period of the project has also ended and project has been taken over by NHAI. Before taking over the project at the end of DLP, inspection was carried out by a team and team raised some observations and proposed rectifications of some defects. Compliance of the observation was done by EPC Contractor and subsequently DLP, except in a stretch, was cleared and the project was handed over to NHAI. Thereafter, routine maintenance and incident management of the project highway is being done by the O&M agency. In stretch from Mullana (Ambala) to Yamunanagr, rectification of some defects was not done by EPC contractor for which recovery of damages has been done from EPC contractor.

The Yamunanaar-Chutmalpur- Roorkee section was constructed on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) mode and this section is under Defect Liability Period. The Concessionaire is maintaining the project stretch as per the standards mentioned in the Concession Agreement. Moreover, continuous monitoring of the project is being done by Independent Engineer engaged on the project.

The Roorkee-Haridwar Project was executed on Item Rate Mode. As on date the project is in Defect Notification Period and the rectification of the identified defects has been undertaken by the Contractor.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration. NHAI, however strictly follows the quality of works following the desired standards and specifications. The Supervision Consultancy firms are appointed on each project for day-to-day monitoring of quality of work during construction and maintenance. NHAI also conducts quality audit/ inspection through independent team of experts during construction and before taking over the project.
