

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:422
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
LANDSCAPING BEAUTIFICATION OF NHS
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines laid down for landscaping/beautification of the National Highways (NHs);
- (b) whether the Government/National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) provides funds for landscaping/ beautification of NHs across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated and utilization reported during each of the last three years, NH-wise;
- (d) the details of NHs projects which have incurred time and cost overruns and the reasons therefor, NH-wise; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government/ NHAI for expediting the above projects?

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. 422 FOR ANSWER ON 23.04.2015 ASKED BY SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB REGARDING LANDSCAPING/ BEAUTIFICATION OF NHS

(a) Landscaping/beautification of the National Highways (NHs) is done as per IRC:SP:21-2009, namely 'Guidelines on Landscaping and Tree Plantation'.

(b) & (c) Landscaping/ beautification of NHs is done as integral part of NH projects as per existing norms and concession agreement and no separate funds are allocated for this.

(d) & (e) Total 419 number of projects are delayed due to various reasons such as Land Acquisition, Utility shifting, Non availability of Soil/Aggregates, Poor performance of contractors, Environment/ Forest/Wildlife Clearance, Rail Over Bridge (ROB) & Railway Under Bridge (RUB) issue with Railways, Public agitation demanding for additional facilities, Arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc. Various steps taken by the Government/ NHAI from time to time to remove bottlenecks and expedite progress of these projects include streamlining of land acquisition, streamlining of environmental clearances, exit for equity investors, premium re-schedulement, securitization of road sector loans, close coordination with other ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc.