

# Improvement of National Highways in North Bengal

Under Bharat Mala Pariyojana, 5067 Km length of roads has been identified for providing connection to Backward, Religious and Tourist places. It is intended that these projects shall be taken up through various executing agencies such as National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), State PWDs and National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) as per available resources and inter-se-priority of works for National Highways (NHs).

The Road Transport & Highways Ministry has received no specific plan for creating linkages of all small towns and villages in North Bengal to Major trade hubs through National Highways. However, improvement of 136 km National Highways at an estimated cost of Rs. 2440 crore is in progress and 4 laning of 29.41 km National Highways in North Bengal is to be taken up in 2019-20. Besides, preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for improvement of 686 km National Highways has been taken up in West Bengal.

At present, 7 projects of aggregate length of 345.4 km on NH 34 are in progress and all these projects are targeted for completion by December 2021.

This information was given by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari in a written reply in Lok Sabha today.

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**NP/MS**

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