

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 856
ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2025**

**FATAL ACCIDENTS AT AROOR-THURAVOOR, NH-66 STRETCH IN
KERALA**

**856. SHRI K C VENUGOPAL:
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:**

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the repeated fatal accidents, including the recent girder collapse on the Aroor-Thuravoor National Highway-66 construction stretch in Kerala and the reasons for such recurring structural failures;
- (b) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) had conducted mandatory safety audits, third-party inspections or load-testing before permitting traffic movement, if not, the reasons therefor and whether the Ministry will fix responsibility for the gross violation of safety protocols;
- (c) the number of accidents and fatalities reported on this specific stretch since construction began and whether the Ministry acknowledges this as the highest accident-prone National Highway construction zone in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government intends to initiate criminal proceedings against the contractor, the construction company and the supervising officials whose negligence contributed to these preventable deaths, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Ministry will constitute an independent high-level committee to inspect the site and recommend urgent corrective measures, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The accidents reported in the project stretch of Aroor-Thuravoor are due to various reasons; viz., not strictly enforcing approved traffic diversion plans, not adhering to traffic rules and restricted Right of Way etc.

The said fatal accident of girder collapse occurred at 2.30 am on 13.11.2025 on the project site was due to mechanical failure (Hydraulic Jack failed) and due to violation of safety protocol by the commuter.

(b) Safety Audits are being conducted during construction works by appointing third-party consultants. M/s. Samarth Infra Engineering Technocrats Pvt. Ltd has been appointed to conduct Road Safety Audit of the project during the construction stage.

Further, on 14.11.2025, RITES has been asked to carry out the Safety Audit of Aroor-Thuravoor (12 KM) 6-lane elevated corridor on NH-66 to be followed for other projects of NH-66.

(c) No separate record of fatal accidents due to ongoing construction is maintained by the Police Authorities. However, the year-wise details of fatal accidents on the stretch, obtained from police authorities, is placed at Annexure. The information includes accidents due to various reasons such as not-adhering to traffic rules, negligent driving, over-speed etc.

(d) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has temporarily suspended the Contractor and Authority Engineer for 1 month from bidding and issued Show Cause Notices for debarment (up to 03 years to Contractor and up to 2 years to Authority Engineer) and imposing monetary penalty. The concerned key personnel, associated with the incident, being removed from the project.

(e) An Expert Committee inspected the site on 14.11.2025 to evaluate the probable cause of the incident of falling of PSC Girders that had occurred on 13.11.2025 at 2.30 am. Expert Committee submitted its preliminary report on 17.11.2025. The actions are being taken as per the recommendations of the Committee. The following safety measures have been implemented:

- (1) Installation of Activity-wise awareness signboards at all relevant work fronts/ critical locations.**
- (2) Cleaning of Signboards & Barricades.**
- (3) Installation of Regulatory Signboards.**
- (4) Deployment of Traffic Marshals for Traffic Regulation.**
- (5) Mass TBT (Tool Box Talk) for Workforce Awareness.**
- (6) Green Net installation at Barricade areas.**
- (7) Provision of Reflective Tapes on Launching Beam.**
- (8) Installation of Restricted Work-zone Cautionary Signboards.**
- (9) Removal of Hard Barricades in completed median areas.**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 856 ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2025 ASKED BY SHRI K C VENUGOPAL AND ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH REGARDING 'FATAL ACCIDENTS AT AROOR-THURAVOOR, NH-66 STRETCH IN KERALA'.

ABSTRACT OF FATAL ACCIDENT	
Year	Total Nos
2023	14
2024	21
2025	12
Total	47
