

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3034
ANSWERED ON 06TH AUGUST, 2026**

CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS ON NH-326 AND NH-26

3034. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the proposals for construction of tunnels at Gumma Ghat on National Highway (NH)-326 and Jeypore Ghat on NH-26, including the status of surveys, DPRs and approvals;**
- (b) whether the Government has assessed their impact on road safety, reduction in travel time and all-weather connectivity in the tribal districts of Koraput and Rayagada, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the present status of the Koraput, Jeypore and Rayagada Bypass projects, including land acquisition, approvals, tendering and construction;**
- (d) the reasons for delay, if any, in implementation of these projects; and**
- (e) the timeline for sanction, commencement and completion of the tunnel and bypass projects to improve connectivity, reduce accidents and facilitate socio-economic development in the region?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) & (b) At present, no proposal for construction of tunnels at Gumma Ghat on NH-326 and Jeypore Ghat on NH-26 is under consideration. Accordingly, no survey or Detailed Project Report has been carried out for these tunnel projects.

(c) to (e) The present status of the tunnel and bypass projects in Koraput and Rayagada districts including bypass projects at Koraput, Jeypore and Rayagada, covering the status of land acquisition, approvals, tendering, construction, reasons for delay, and the timelines for sanction, commencement and completion is Annexed.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) to (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3034 FOR 06TH AUGUST, 2026 ASKED SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS ON NH-326 AND NH-26.

Sr. No.	Project Name	Sanction Cost	Sanction Date	Date of Commencement	Scheduled date of Completion / Likely date of Completion	Reason for delays
1.	Construction of four lane bypass to Jeypore town on NH-26 including land acquisition in the State of Odisha under Annual Plan 2021-22.	Rs. 135.18 Cr	22.03.2026	22.05.2023	12.11.2024/ 31.12.2026	Delay in Land Acquisition
2.	Construction of bypass road to Rayagada town and J. K. Pur town on NH-326 in the state of Odisha on EPC mode under Annual Plan 2023-24.	Rs. 323.76 Cr	17.10.2023	-	-	Delay in Land Acquisition
3.	Construction of 2L Paved-Shoulder Bypass road to Koraput town in the state of Odisha	-		DPR work has been taken up		
