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New road transport secretary V Umashankar has instructed all highway engineers and officials to have zero-tolerance for potholes, while taking note of a recent case of a pothole-related death on a national highway in Kerala.

Project Monitoring Group set up by the PMO under Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had directed departments to submit detailed reports within 15 days on projects delayed beyond three years and the action plan to complete them.

As per a published report on accidents in 2022 across all roads, 1,856 lives were lost in pothole-related crashes.