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Title: Regarding damaged sewerage pipeline between Enchakkal and Kumarichantha on NH-66 bypass.

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister of Road Transport and Highways to the problems caused by a damaged sewerage pipeline under the reinforced earth wall between Enchakkal and Kumarichantha on the NH 66 bypass. The NHAI has blocked two-way traffic on the bypass because of the leak leading to heavy traffic congestion during peak hours and inconvenience to motorists at a crucial junction in the state capital. Over time, the leak is also likely to weaken the structure of the reinforced earth wall with unknown consequences and risks. While the NHAI contends that repair work is the responsibility of the Kerala Water Authority as NHAI was not informed of the pipeline at the time of construction, the KWA holds that the NHAI is responsible for such repairs.

I, therefore, urge the Minister to expedite the resolution of the matter so that repair can commence immediately and risk to the lives of the commuters can be eliminated.