

**Seventeenth Loksabha**

an&gt;

Title : Regarding speeding up of the completion of NH 79 road connecting Salem and Ulundurpettai

Dr. Pon Gautham Sigamani (KALLAKURICHI): Sir, Ulundurpet-Salem National Highway at Kallakurichi parliamentary constituency is an accident-prone zone. Accidents take place daily and in the last eleven years, from 2011 to 2022, around 1,036 deaths have been reported because the four-lane National Highway from Ulundurpettai to Salem is incomplete. This Project started in July 2008 at an estimated cost of Rs 941 crore but it is not yet completed. It was said to be completed in 2013. The fact is that the work is still incomplete. The roads in Athoor, Vazhapadi, Udaiyarpatti, Chinnasalem, Kallakurichi, Thiyagadurgam, Elavanasur and Ulundurpettai are left as two-lane roads instead of four-lane roads. Four-lane roads shrink to two-lane roads on overbridges having dangerous curves which cause tragic accidents. The National Highway connecting Salem and Chennai via Ulundurpettai and Villupuram is very vital as it has many educational institutions and facilitates large number of small and medium scale industries in districts of Salem, Namakkal, Cuddalore and Villupuram. The speedy completion of National Highway, which is incomplete for more than ten years, will help in bringing new industries here. Hence, I request that the government should speed up work on NH-79 connecting Salem and Ulundurpettai lying incomplete for several years now and prevent the loss of unfortunate lives in such accidents.