

Regarding land acquisition for developing Green Field Highway on NH 744

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, thank you very much for providing me this opportunity. The matter is pertaining to greenfield National Highway 744 starting from my constituency, Kadampattukonam Parippally, Edamon, Shenkottai, Aryankavu, Thenmala to Tirumangalam. It has been declared as a greenfield highway by the Government of India.

It is quite unfortunate that the process of land acquisition has not been completed so far. 3A notification is there. 3D notification has been completed. But so far, land acquisition has not been completed. Therefore, people who have already given their consent for land acquisition are in big trouble and they are not able to transact any business on their land as it is under acquisition.

Once the State Government had agreed that they will pay 25 per cent of the total cost of land acquisition. That was the assurance given by the State Government. Unfortunately, the State Government has not kept their promise and they are not willing to pay 25 per cent of the total cost of land acquisition.

The Minister of Road Transport, Shri Nitin Gadkari has suggested that if 25 per cent of the total cost of land acquisition is not paid, GST exemption may be given for the materials for construction and royalty for the rock blasting has to be given. The Central Government and the State Government had a serious discussion on this issue. But so far, no decision has been taken.

The acquisition process had been started two years back. People are suffering. They are ready and willing to surrender their land. Notification is there. But people are not getting the compensation. They are in big difficulty.

So, my submission to the Government of India is to please bear the total cost of construction of the highway and expediate the steps of the acquisition; complete the acquisition process at the earliest; and the compensation be provided to the people belonging to that area. The proceedings have to be initiated at the earliest.

Thank you very much, Sir.