

## **Regarding construction of Emergency Landing Facility (ELF) on National Highway-16 in Andhra Pradesh**

**SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY (ONGOLE):** Thank you very much, Chairman, Sir. First of all, I want to thank the hon. Prime Minister, and the Minister of Road, Transport and Highways that the National Highways Authority of India in their guidance has selected the 3.60 km. long strip that starts from KM 1274 to KM 1277.6 of Chilakaluripet to Nellore section between Kalikivaya and Singarayakonda on National Highway-16 in my Parliamentary Constituency for construction of Emergency Landing Facility.

The contract for development of this Emergency Landing Facility was signed between NHAI and the contractor on 26.12.2019. Major civil works were completed on 20.12.2021.

On 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 a joint inspection was done by NHAI and Indian Air Force team, and they made an observation that minor bends and curves in the ELF are required to be corrected. The PD NHAI-Nellore explored the possibilities for straitening of minor bends and curves after the joint site visit by the representatives of NHAI, Indian Air Force, contractors and consultants.

The detailed cost estimate for rectification of minor bends and curves of Rs. 20.60 crores and for land acquisition cost of approximately Rs. 6 crores was forwarded to the competent authority of NHAI for approval from RO Vijayawada on 25.01.2023. This is not yet approved and is pending with NHAI for the last eleven months. Even though the hon. Minister had instructed the Member of NHAI for completion of this project, it is getting delayed.

I request the hon. Road Transport and Highways Minister for instructing the NHAI for approving these estimates on priority basis as this ELF has its strategic advantage. When disasters like recent Cyclone Michaung are there in Andhra Pradesh, it would be useful at that time. This ELF project must be completed soon in the national interest.

