

Regarding construction of National Highway and also a parallel road for the commuters

**SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA):** Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to raise one of the most important issues relating to my State and my constituency.

In many parts of Kerala, the widening of the National Highway work is going on. But everywhere, the common people are suffering too much. For example, in my constituency, the National Highway construction work is virtually dividing the important towns like Kayamkulam, Ambalappuzha, Karunagappally. Kayamkulam is one of the historic cities. That city itself is getting divided because of the National Highway construction work. There is no better design for these people. We, the representatives of the people from the State, requested them, at least, to have a design to protect the major cities. The hon. Minister is very liberal to see these things. He instructed the officers, but nothing is happening.

On the other hand, on the Aroor-Thuravoor Highway, which is a big national highway, a flyover is being constructed. This is one of the lifelines of Kerala's traffic. Today, the people are forming a human chain there. There is no parallel road. There are no diversion routes. People are dying due to accidents everyday. Recently, 21 people died. We asked the Government to take measures to see that whenever they are doing the construction work, at least, a parallel road should be constructed. Otherwise, how can the people travel? So many patients are there. So many patients have to reach the hospitals? (*Interruptions*) They are not in a position to reach. Therefore, I would request the Government to take immediate measures to solve this problem at the earliest.