

Need to address the situation arising out of repeated accidents on NH 966 at Panayampadam curve near Kalladikode in Kerala-laid

**SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN (PALAKKAD):** In a tragic road accident on 12.12.2024 at Panayampadam curve near Kalladikode, Karimba on the National Highway 966 four young girl school students were killed. The lorry carrying cement bags lost control at the curve, and truck toppled over them who were walking through roadside. More than 50 road accidents took place and 11 people have lost their lives at Panayampadam and this area has turned into an accident hotspot. I have been raising this issue under Rule 377 and communicating to the Hon?ble Minister concerned since 23.04.2021. But the issue remained unresolved till now and accidents continue to happen there. I was informed by Hon?ble Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways that NHAI is planning to upgrade the stretch. DPR for upgradation of above stretch is in progress and alignment is approved by NHAI which bypasses the location Panayampadam, The gruesome incident triggered strong protests by local people and blocked vehicular movement for hours. I urge the government to rectify unscientific construction of national highway at this stretch immediately.