

Regarding need to expedite completion of work to widen the stretch of NH No. 966 between Olavakkode and Thanavu in Kerala-Laid

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN (PALAKKAD): Many deep and large potholes on Olavakkode-Thanavu road of National Highway No.966 are creating heavy road blocks / traffic jams and accidents leading to deaths for the last several months. The vehicular movements during the rainy season are a daunting task on this stretch due to deep potholes. Long traffic jams from New Bridge to Puthuppariyaram Industrial Estate is a regular phenomenon during day and night. The widening work of National Highway 966 has been stopped just 250-300 mtrs before Thanavu junction. This has created a bottleneck shape there. Many accidents occurred because of the incompleteness of widening work near Thanavu junction. Accidents are a regular phenomenon, as well as traffic jams due to sudden road width reduction. It is necessary to widen the stretch between Olavakkode and Chandra Nagar in Palakkad from two lanes to at-least four lanes as this stretch has huge traffic volume as all the vehicles towards Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have to pass through this stretch. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to resolve these issues of potholes, complete the incomplete widening work before Thanavu junction and expand from two lanes to four lanes between Olavakkode and Chandra Nagar - all concerning National Highway 966.