

Title: Need to accord sanction to the proposal of Government of Maharashtra for Western Freeway Sea-link from Bandra to Nariman Point, Mumbai-Laid.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): Over the last two decades, the existing western corridor stretching from Nariman Point to Bandra has become increasingly congested. The traffic level on some sections of the western corridor have reached the saturation capacity resulting in low average speeds and inordinate delays. At present there is only one link through Mahim Causeway connecting Mumbai Suburbs with island city. Due to the constraint to enhance the capacity there is chronic traffic congestion on the Western corridor which carries nearly 1,20,000 vehicles per day. Therefore, the Government of Maharashtra conceived this Western Freeway Project from Bandra to Nariman Point in 1960. The Government of Maharashtra forwarded the feasibility report to Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India in March, 2001 for early clearance.

The application and questionnaire in the prescribed format have been submitted by MSRDC to Ministry of Environment and Forests on 10th May, 2001.

I would urge upon the Government for early clearance of the project so as to ensure its implementation on priority basis.