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Title: Need to give adequate compensation to the land owners whose land have been acquired for the construction of NH-47 between Chengapalli to Valayaru in Tamil Nadu.

\*SHRI C. SIVASAMI (TIRUPPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Tamil Nadu, NH-47 that passes through Coimbatore and Tiruppur Districts is being widened now as a six-lane highway. Right now, the section between Sengampalli and Walayar is witnessing the progress in this widening work. Cultivable lands and residential plot areas from the private people are being acquired by the Government for the purpose of widening the road. The compensation that is being paid to the land owners are very low. Towns like Sengampalli, Perumanallur, Avinashi, Karumathampatti are situated on this highway. In these areas, the open market value of land per acre is Rs. 1 crore. The valuation by land registration authorities remain much less than the open market value and it is less than Rs. 10 lakh per acre. Due to this, the land owners are getting only 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the value of their land when they hand over their land for public purpose to the Government. So there is a need to pay adequate compensation considering the fact that these farmers are not able to purchase land in other areas with that meagre money to carry on their farming activity to earn their livelihood. At a time when Government are taking measures to help ease the burden of people to contribute to our economy, these poor and marginal farmers who offer their lands to the Government must not be left in the lurch to fend for themselves. They have offered their land for a common cause to the Government so that Government may provide to the public a six-lane highway. This factor must be borne in mind when compensation is paid to such farmers and must be helped to carry on with their livelihood elsewhere. The compensation must help them to rehabilitate themselves. Hence, I urge upon the Government to pay compensation commensurate with the market value as a better deal for they have contributed for the betterment of the public roads system. Thanking the Chair for the opportunity, I conclude.

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil