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Title: Need to give financial approval to the proposal of Government of Karnataka to upgrade State Highway No. 17.

SHRI R. DHYUVANARAYANA (CHAMRAJANAGAR): I would like to draw the kind attention of the august House regarding the need to upgrade the State Highway No. 17 to NH 212.

The NH 212 starts from Kozhikode in Kerala State and terminates at Uttamballi junction of NH 209 in the State of Karnataka. The total length of NH 212 in the State of Karnataka is 150 kms. The upgradation and two laning of NH No. 212 on DBFOT basis with PPP at an estimated cost of Rs.443.87 crores is pending before the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. According to the notification, 125.52 km stretch of the highway that passes through Bandipur forest, Gundlupet town limits and leading to Nanjangud would be of a two lane road with a width ranging from 7 mt to 10 mt. The Highway connecting Mysore and Nanjangud, which was in a bad shape would be developed as a four lane road with a width of 15 mt. One bridge would be constructed as a part of the upgrading project at Nanjangud across Kabini river. An estimate in this regard had been submitted for getting financial approval in 2009 and again submitted for getting financial approval in 2011 due to cost escalation.

In view of heavy vehicular traffic that caused 241 fatal and 936 non fatal accidents on this stretch of NH No. 212 and demands from the public to improve the road condition, I would earnestly appeal the Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways, through the Chair, to take urgent steps to upgrade the above said project by giving financial approval to facilitate the smooth flow of heavy transport and public transport vehicles on NH-212.