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Title : Need to sanction construction of a bridge parallel to existing Zuari bridge in Goa.

SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA (SOUTH GOA): The existing Zuari bridge in Goa connecting Cortalim and Agacaim was built in 1983. It is the life line of Goa economy. It has become old and every six months it is closed for few hours for maintenance as it is quite in bad shape. God forbid if anything goes wrong with the bridge and if it collapses, Goa economy will be in total doldrums and everything will come to a stand still.

Goa is also an important world tourist destination, and it totally depends on tourism industry for its survival. So, in the interest of the State which is also celebrating Golden Jubilee of liberation from the Portuguese rule, I would request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly sanction a special package for Goa to build a parallel bridge on river Zuari as the proposal for building one was already included in the tender which was floated for construction of NH 14 from Canacona to Pednem along with two more bridges, one at Talporna and Galibaga at Canacona.

Due to certain circumstances the tender of NH 14 which was floated could not be executed and the proposal since then has been put into back burner. I would, therefore urge upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister to save the state of Goa from total collapse by sanctioning a grant to build a parallel bridge so that Goans are saved from a catastrophe.