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Title: Need to realign the Kollam-Theni National Highway as per the proposal submitted by the Government of Kerala.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): The Kollam-Theni National Highway was announced during the tenure of the last Central Government. The alignment was from Kollam, Kottarakara, Chengannur, Kottayam, Kanjirappally, Mundakkayam, Peerunude, Kunnili, Theni. But, this alignment was not acceptable to the Government of Kerala. From Kottayam to Theni alignment, there was no dispute with the National Highway Authority of India. But, at the same time, there is a dispute over Kollam-Kottayam alignment. The people of Kollam and other areas have demanded change from Kollam to Kottayam via Kottarakara and Chengannur. The reason is that Kollam to Kottayam has already been covered by the National Highway running through Kollam-Theni-Mangalam National Highway. From Kottarakara to Chengannur, the World Bank funded State Highway has been undertaken by the KSTP. The State Government has requested the Union Government to change the alignment of the Kollam-Theni National Highway from Kollam to Kottayam. The State has submitted a fresh alignment proposal to the Union Government. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has been raising questions after questions which have already been answered by the State Government. The Government of Kerala has proposed alignment from Kollam, Anchalummoodu, Chittumala, Bharamikavu, Sooranadu, Charummoddu, Kollakadavu, Chengannur, Thiruvala, Changannacherry, Kottayam and Theni. But, the NHAI is yet to take a final decision. The condition of this road is very bad. The Kerala PWD did not take up any work on this section. The annual maintenance work has also not been taken up by the PWD.

Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government to finalize the alignment immediately and start the work at the earliest.