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Title: Need to take steps to expedite the completion of Asian Trilateral Highway.

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent national importance. This is relating to the Asian Trilateral Highway, a project started by the Ministry of External Affairs. The aim of the project was to link Northeast India with South East Asia, particularly Myanmar and Thailand. The benefits of this project are obvious. It would lead to flow of goods, creation of jobs and upgradation of infrastructure in an infrastructure-starved part of the country. But the current status of the project is quite poor. The Thailand authorities have finished their section of the Highway in Thailand. But the Indian authorities have been very slow in implementing this project within India and Myanmar. As a result, the benefits of this project are delayed. I would like to remind the Government that action speaks louder than words. When we say 'Act East', we should do 'Act East' as well.

Hence I urge upon the Ministry of External Affairs to complete this project within the targeted deadline or if it is not possible, then they should hand over the project to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.