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Title: Need to provide adequate funds for maintenance and development of National Highway Nos. 44 and 44A in Tripura.

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY (TRIPURA EAST): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as you know, I am representing the State of Tripura.

The State of Tripura is connected by only one road, that is NH 44. The condition of NH 44 is such that during the last monsoon for more than one month that route was not motorable. Due to that transportation of food grains, medicine, and other essential commodities have got struck. Maintenance of national highways is the responsibility of the Central Government, particularly of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. But during the last one year, hardly one per cent of the total requirements of the fund has been released by the Ministry. One and half years ago, the Ministry was kind enough to accord sanction to another national highway. But till today not a single rupee by way of fund has been released.

So, I appeal to the Government, particularly to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to release adequate money so that this route is properly maintained and also the work for the new road could be taken up. Thank you.