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Title: Regarding construction of Outer Ring Road in Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN (MADURAI): Respected Chairperson, with the blessings of our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, *Puratchi Thalai Amma*, who gave me an opportunity to be the Member of this august House, I start my maiden speech.

First of all; I would like to thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to participate in this House. Madurai city is the third biggest city in Tamil Nadu. It is a traditional city having potential to grow manifold in the coming years. The popular *Meenakshi Amman* Temple draws lakhs of people daily from all over the world. Being centrally located between the southern and northern districts of Tamil Nadu, Madurai well deserves to have all the hi-tech and updated infrastructure facilities such as Metro train, International Airport, helicopter tourism etc.

Construction of the Outer Ring Road around Madurai city is a very important one among such infrastructures. Madurai city is called as *Thoonga Nagaram*, a city that never sleeps. Such is the movement of traffic and people there. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is the nodal organization to execute the construction of Outer Ring Road. Understanding the growth potential and the need of Madurai city, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Amma has allocated Rs. 200 crore towards four laning of the existing half ring road there.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to complete all the formalities and procedures for expeditious completion of Outer Ring Road of Madurai, in public interest.