

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to address the problems faced by people residing on both sides of Vadakkancherry-Mannuthy stretch of National Highway 66 in Kerala.

DR. P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): I am inviting the urgent attention towards the long pending grievances of people residing on both sides of the stretch between Vadakkancherry — Mannuthy of NH-66. The alignment had been finalized without properly taking into account of the demands of the local people. Once the work started, people started protesting due to the inconveniences and discrepancies in provisions with the agreed alignment. Many of the approach roads used by the people have been forcibly closed down or no service road has been laid in many places. Due to the non-compliance of the agreement, local people have organized an action committee to represent their grievances. There is simmering tension between the officials and the people in this area.

Following are some of the important and urgent demands of the people:-

1. The water sources that were part of the water supply projects in Kannambra Gram Panchayat (Karayankado water supply Project) and Panthalappadam (Neelippara water supply project) panchayat have been destroyed in many places. Renovation or compensation has to be paid to reinstate water supply in these punchayats.
2. To provide service roads from Panniyamkara —Vaniampara on either side of the National highway.
3. To provide signal crossing at Royal junction Vadakkanchery.
4. There is a school with hundreds of students at Panthalatupadam. It is necessary

to provide one foot over—bridge at Panthalatapadam.

5. To provide signal lights at Panniyamkara, Chuvatttppadam, Neelippara and Vaniyampara.
6. Absence of proper drainage leads to damage of the road during monsoon. Steps should be taken to construct proper drainage facility between Vadakkancherry and Mannuthy.
7. Steps should be taken to protect and conserve the aquifers and natural springs and streams at the stretch between Kuthiran and Mannuthy.
8. To call a district level meeting presided over by collector with NHAI and BOT Company and the representatives of the action committee to redress the grievances raised by the panchayat and common people.