

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to construct a new bridge on National Highway 66 in Kozhikoda district of Kerala.

Shri Mullappally Ramachandran (Vadakara): I wish to draw the urgent attention of the Government towards the acute difficulties faced by lakhs of travellers on NH 66 between Calicut and Kannur because of bottlenecks on the National Highway. I refer specifically to the condition prevailing at the Moorad bridge about 4 Kms south of Vatakara on NH 66 (in Kozhikode District). There is continuous traffic on this road as it links Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra with Kerala. The congestion caused by the narrowness and the dangerous condition of this bridge is holding up traffic daily for hours together, causing inexplicable misery and loss of precious time to the lakhs travelling on this route daily. A new bridge at this point must be taken up as a 'standalone project' as we cannot afford to wait for time consuming formalities for a full-fledged widening of the highway. This issue needs to be addressed immediately and early.