

Regarding need for construction of a bypass road at Junagarh town in Kalahandi district, Odisha-laid

SHRIMATI MALVIKA DEVI (KALAHANDI): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon^{ble} Minister of Road Transport and Highways to the urgent need for sanctioning and expediting the construction of a bypass road at Junagarh town in Kalahandi district, Odisha. The main road passing through Junagarh town is extremely narrow and has become a major accident-prone stretch. This road serves as a vital arterial route for people travelling to Dharamgarh, Kalampur, Jaipatna, Koksara and Nabarangpur, and at present, due to the nonfunctioning of the Turkel bridge, the same road is being heavily used by commuters travelling towards Nuapada, Khariar and Raipur hence there is severe congestion, frequent traffic bottlenecks, and a rising number of road accidents, causing immense hardship to local residents, pedestrians, school children, and daily commuters. For the public safety concerns and the strategic importance of this route, I earnestly request the Hon^{ble} Minister to sanction the Junagarh bypass at the earliest and ensure that construction work is taken up on a priority basis. The long pending demand of the people of Junagarh will not only reduce accidents and congestion but also improve regional connectivity and economic activity in the Kalahandi.