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Title: Request to government to provide an underground subway and a road overbridge on the Channai- Banglore National Highway near Walajapet District Headquaters Hospital near the S.S.S. College junction at Arcot town bypass bridge at Melvisharam-Poottuthakker and at Katpadi on the Vellore - chittoor Highway.

**SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (ARAKKONAM):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency, Walajapaet is the first established municipality in India and it is now 155 years old. There is a district headquarters hospital, which is situated on the Chennai-Bengaluru National Highway. This hospital has been constructed on both sides of the Highway. There are 5000 out-patients and 500 in-patients from about 100 nearby villages visiting the hospital daily. The beneficiaries of this hospital are from poor agricultural background and down-trodden people. The patients have to cross this heavy traffic-congested National Highway from one side to other to avail their treatment from this hospital. As per the police records, about 30 to 40 accidents are taking place every day on this stretch. I urge the Government to provide an underground subway and a road overbridge linking the villages on both sides of the National Highway-4, which will certainly help the patients and general public, especially the elderly people, to move freely and without fear to cross this road. Every day more than 50,000 vehicles are passing through Arcot town in my constituency and it has turned out to be a congested traffic junction. This can be rectified if there is a bridge constructed near the S.S.S. College junction.

There are forty villages in and around Melvisharam-Poottuthakku, located close to the Chennai-Bangalore National Highway. There are 20 to 35 accidents taking place in this same area. Here also, we need a bridge.

There is a narrow bridge at Katpadi on the Vellore-Chittoor Highway which was constructed a hundred years ago and has become very old and weak. Being a small bridge, this has forced the vehicles to stand in a queue for long periods to cross this small bridge. This causes heavy traffic congestion in this area. So, one new bridge with capacity for more vehicles should be constructed to replace the old one.

In view of the above, I request the hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways to provide necessary bridges or underpasses on the Chennai-Bangalore National Highway near Walajapet District Headquarters Hospital, near the S.S.S. College junction at Arcot town bypass bridge, at Melvisharam-Poottuthakku, and at Katpadi on the Vellore-Chittoor Highway.