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Title: Regarding widening of National Highway 55 from Cuttack to Sambalpur in Odisha.

SHRI MAHESH SAHOO (DHENKANAL) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am really grateful to you that you have given me a chance to speak. Partially, I am unable to speak in Hindi and I cannot speak in English fluently. So, I had to speak in Odia about which I have intimated the secretariat.

*Hon. Speaker, Sir, as you are aware the National Highways plying through Odisha are in deplorable condition. Due to lack of funds, their repair work is not taking place in time. In the recent past, the Central Government has taken a decision regarding National Highway that connects Sambalpur to Cuttack. This route connects rest of Odisha to the western Odisha. It should be four-laned and in the Dhenkanal parliamentary constituency, there is absolutely no problem of land acquisition.

As per the version of the hon. Minister, there is delay in the work due to acquisition, but from Angul to Cuttack, there is absolutely no problem of acquisition. However, the work is very slow. I request the Government through you, Sir, that the works should be expedited as soon as possible so that the development of the busiest road connecting to the Western Odisha is completed.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : डॉ. शशि थरूर । आप नया विषय बोल दीजिए, क्योंकि पुराना विषय आप पहले बोल चुके हैं ।

