

Title : Regarding alternate route for proposed expansion of Chandikhole-Paradip Section of NH-53 in Odisha-Laid

SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI (JAGATSINGHPUR): The construction of National Highways (NH) touched to more than 30 Kms per day during the financial year 2023-24, and the network, which has increased by 60% from 91,287 km in 2014 to 1,46,145 km in year 2023. As part of this progress, the State of Odisha has also gained much during last 11 years. Recently, the work for the rehabilitation and upgradation from 4 to 8 lane of Chandikhole-Paradip section NH-53 has been awarded and is expected to be completed soon. However, this NH project will be acquiring land of two villages: Bijaychandrapur and Udaybat (around 2.5 km distance) and inhabitants of these two villages are going to be evicted. The villagers will be losing their home, shops and livelihoods. If an alternative route for the expansion of NH 53 on this 2.5 km stretch is readily available, and eviction of two villagers is avoidable without demolition of homes and shops, this may be considered instead of evicting families of these two villages. I would urge the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways to look into the matter urgently and protect the interest of these two villagers in my Parliamentary Constituency-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha.