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14.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at six minutes*

*past Fourteen of the Clock.*

*(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)*

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

MR. SPEAKER: We shall now take up Matters under Rule 377.

Title: Need to sanction adequate funds for proper maintenance of National Highway No.215, particularly between Panikoili and Rajamunda in Orissa.

**SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR):** National Highway No.215 from Panikoili to Rajamunda in Orissa is in a very bad condition. Nobody is paying attention to it, despite the fact that it has been declared as a national highway three years ago. Barring a stretch of around 20 kilometres, the entire road and bridges are lying in a dilapidated condition. Unless the road is widened and developed as a national highway, the people will find it very difficult to ply their vehicles. Besides the light motor vehicles, thousands of trucks loaded with minerals and also buses carrying hundreds of passengers are running on that highway. Even the bridges, which we constructed before Independence, are not repaired and renovated till today. Therefore, it is very necessary to develop and upgrade the road as a national highway. Otherwise, there is no point in declaring that road as a national highway.

I request the Central Government to sanction adequate funds for National Highway No.215 so that it is widened, upgraded and developed as a national highway.