Title: Need to include N.H.-9 and part of N.H. 202 in Andhra Pradesh for four laning in first phase programme.

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY (HANAMKONDA): Sir, the efforts of the Government in improving the road infrastructure in the country, particularly in the development of the National Highways is really praise-worthy. This will create a visible impact in the economic development of the entire country.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for inclusion of NH-18, NH-4 and parts of NH-202 from Hyderabad to Bhupalapatnam and NH-205 for use as important corridors of the National Highways.

It is surprising that NH-9 has not been included in four laning to be taken up in first phase of the proposed programme during 2003-04. High density of traffic on this road was recognised by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways much before the finalisation of the present proposed programme and about 170 kilometres of this National Highway has been included for four laning. It would be appropriate if the balance stretches are also taken up.

I request the Government of India to include the entire NH-9 and part of NH-202 in the State for four laning in first phase of the proposed programme. The budget allocation may please be revised for the above programme accordingly.