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Title: Need for construction of four-lane highways in Kerala with a view to develop tourism in the State- Laid.

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (QUILON) : Kerala is a state which has notified tourism as an industry and it has immense potential for tourism development. But the biggest impediment to the development on tourism front is the deplorable condition of the roads including and National Highways. The narrow width of the NH 17, 47, 208 has made traffic congestion and blockade and order of the day. The high density of population in the State, huge number of commuters and the ever increasing number of vehicles on the road have thrown the transport system of the State to haywire. To make the transport system efficient and user-friendly, only alternative is to construct a four-lane National Highways which interlinks the airports, seaports, tourism centres, industrial areas and other important spots of the State.

I would urge upon the Central Government through this House to expedite steps to facilitate a better transport system for the State of Kerala.