

Title: Regarding exclusion of entire Western Coast in the proposed Quadrilateral Highway being developed by the Ministry of Surface Transport.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (IDDUKKI): Mr. Chairman, the Golden Quadrilateral Highway which is being developed by the Ministry of Surface Transport to link the four corners of this country, has excluded the Western Coast bordering the States of Kefrala, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Maharashtra. .

This is a highway, which runs to 6,000 kilometres involving a cost of Rs.58,000 crore. A part of it is being financed by the cess on diesel and petrol. These excluded States are also contributing towards this money. It is unfortunate that a major portion of this country, almost the entire Western Coast has been excluded from this major highway that is being developed by the Government. Advantage-wise, this highway from Kanyakumari to Mumbai will provide connection to several important major and minor ports.

It will provide service to all the largest tourist centres of this country. It will also contribute to the accelerated development of all the States. The leaders of all the political parties and all the MPs from this State had met the hon. Prime Minister twice. The hon. Prime Minister had assured to consider this point. But nothing has been done. The hon. Minister of Surface Transport is sitting here. I met the hon. Minister also. The hon. Minister said that he would consider it. ...(*Interruptions*) It is very unfortunate! ...(*Interruptions*) Let me complete. Please give me half a minute. This is a very important issue. This is an issue involving four States. ...(*Interruptions*)

स्भापति महोदय : आपने स्वाल उठा दिया, अब कृपा कर अपना स्थान ग्रहण कीजिए।

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : What is this? We are not being allowed to talk in the House....(*Interruptions*) What is the point. ...(*Interruptions*)