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Title: Need to declare State Highway No.18 between Salem and Vaniyambadi in Tamil Nadu as a National Highway.

**SHRI V. VETRISSELVAN (KRISHNAGIRI):** The State Highway No.18 between Vaniyambadi and Salem via Thirupathur to Uthangari Harur in Tamil Nadu has a heavy traffic. This State Highway connects the Northarkardu, Dharmapuri and Salem Districts. All buses are flying from Vellur to Salem on this State Highway. Many reputed industries and educational institutions fall in between Salem and Vaniyambadi. Agricultural products are transported through this road from one place to other. All these facts have put heavy traffic burden on this State Highway and that is why, there is a great demand to convert this State Highway No.18, *i.e.*, between Salem and Vaniyambadi into a National Highway. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has already approved the proposal and sent the same to the Union Government, National Highway Authority of India and other concerned authorities.

Hence, I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter and declare the above mentioned State Highway as National Highway.

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