

Title: Need to upgrade and make four-laning National Highway No. 215 in Orissa - Laid.

SHRIANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR): Out of a total length of 270 km of National Highway No. 215 from Panikoili and Rajamunda 198 km passes through my Parliamentary Constituency Keonjhar. Remaining portions come under my neighbouring Sundergarh and Jajpur districts. This road is the backbone of all economic activities of my State as the major deposits of minerals in Orissa which are found in Keonjhar district are transported to Paradip Port for export purpose by trucks which is the only means of transporting freight available in that part of Orissa at present. The plying of truck loads of iron ore has damaged the National Highway extensively. The movement of trucks has resulted in traffic congestion and passenger traffic has almost come to standstill.

Unless immediate steps are taken for fourlaning the NH 215 the condition of the road will further deteriorate and the road accidents causing in large number at present almost daily cannot be curbed.

As such, I demand that the NH 215 be upgraded and made four lanes as early as possible.