

Title: Need to declare Cuttack – Chandbali State Highway in Orissa as a National Highway - Laid.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (KENDRAPARA): I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways to the urgent need for declaring Cuttack-Chandbail State Highway in Orissa as a National Highway. This is a 150 km stretch of state road passing through the four coastal districts of Cuttack, Kendrapara, Jajpura and Bhadrak. As this road passes through a thickly populated area of about 15 lakh people, it experiences a heavy traffic congestion round the year. From strategic point of view also, this is a very important state road because it provides a shorter connectivity between Dhamar Port and Paradeep Port. This State highway provides a very vital infrastructure to the area commercially as it provides a link to the coast-line of Orissa to the commercial capital of Cuttack. Being a very narrow road, it causes a lot of inconveniences to traffic, during peak hours not only to vehicles but to other users also. This State highway is the most important lifeline of the small and medium farmers, fishermen, small traders of the agriculturally rich Mahanadi delta through which it passes. From the point of view of tourism also this road provides a link to Bhitarkanika, which has occupied an important spot in the tourism map of Orissa.