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Title: Need to develop the alternative route from Silchar to Guwahati for the people of Barak Valley, Assam.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIDYA (KARIMGANJ): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that Barak valley – an area in Assam having population of 40 lakhs along with a part of Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura remains cut off from the rest of India very frequently during rainy season due to landslide on train tracks and Sonapur area of NH 44, which is the only road connecting Guwahati via Meghalaya having a distance of 360 KM. The journey in normal weather takes about 11 hours. There is strong resentment among the people of the valley for want of easy connectivity through an alternative road which can reduce the distance and time of journey. There is an alternative route from Silchar to Guwahati via Harangajaw, Turuk, Sangbar, Panimor, Umrangshu, Kheroni, and Jagi Raod, which is existing but needs development by widening from one lane and metalling upto Jagi Road in order to make it suitable for vehicular traffic. The proposed route is 60 KM shorter than the existing one having less hilly terrain by which people of the valley can reach Guwahati in 7 hours as against 11 hours as at present. I, therefore, urge the Government to consider upgrading this alternative route and relieve the huge population of Barak Valley Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura from their long standing sufferings.

* Laid on the Table