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Title: Need for double – laning of National Highway from Gangtok to Jaigong, Sikkim.

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI (SIKKIM): The Central Government is currently constructing National Highway in Sikkim (Gangtok-Mangan-Chungthan-Lacheng-Kalep-Jaigong) under the Single Laning Project (Width – 12 metres, with 3.75 metres as black top). However, given the potential importance of this Highway, which will emerge as the lifeline of Sikkim, double-laning of this Highway, is necessary.

Today Sikkim has emerged as an all season tourist destination, with tourists from all over the world, visiting the state to enjoy the natural beauty and peaceful atmosphere. Under these circumstances, world class infrastructure is necessary. Double laning of the mentioned National Highway would facilitate, higher tourist inflow and movement to all parts of Sikkim. Besides, it would also ensure implementation of various programmes initiated by the state government.

The Centre should also consider double laning of Chunthang-Lachung Highway in Sikkim for faster implementation of various development projects.

Further, the Centre should consider double-laning of Sewak-Gangtok National Highway as it is the only Highway connecting Sikkim with rest of India. The highway should also be made an all season road for smooth movement of

tourists and heavy vehicles, necessary for the day-to-day living and development of people of Sikkim.

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