

Title: Regarding the delay in giving compensation for the land acquired for widening of NH-47 in Kerala.

SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN (MUKUNDAPURAM):

Sir, thousands of land owners who had given their lands for the widening of NH-47 are now driven to the verge of suicide due to non-payment of compensation by the Government. Sir, the process of land acquisition for the four-lane national highway from Ankamali to Mannuthi and Mannuthi to Valayar should be completed immediately and the land owners should be paid compensation. Though the process of land acquisition for the national highway NH-17, started more than 25 years ago it has not yet been completed. So the land acquisition for NH-17 should be completed immediately and the highway should be developed in time. The land owners have not yet been paid the meager amount fixed by the Government many years ago. Therefore, they cannot buy land anywhere.

Sir, the land price in Kerala has increased ten-fold. The poor cannot buy land even to construct a small house. They are literally on the highway. Sir, considering the density of population of Kerala and also scarcity of land, the attempts to convert NH-47 into a six-lane highway should be immediately dropped. Sir, by constructing a new fly-over on the NH-47 at the Chalakkudi Municipal Junction, the road block on the Chalakkudi – Mala route can be removed. The various difficulties that the common man may face due to the expansion of NH-47 and their problems in travelling should be solved by the Centre by taking appropriate and timely steps.

* English translation of this part of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.