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Title: Need to construct a underpass and a pedestrian over bridge under Golden Quadrilateral Roads Project in Aurangabad Parliamentary Constituency in Bihar.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR (AURANGABAD, BIHAR): The NH 2, which is part of the PM's Golden Quadrilateral Roads Project (PMGQRP) and passes through my constituency Aurangabad in Bihar, is a high-speed highway that carries heavy passenger and freight traffic. It runs through congested habitations and, in the process, creates serious accident situations. There are some areas, which are particularly accident-prone such as Madanpur town and a T-Junction called the Deo turning where people, in the course of their everyday life, have to necessarily cross the highway to attend to their personal business or to walk with ploughs or tractors to their fields. This poses a serious traffic hazard that endangers public safety. Already in the past three weeks or so there have been two serious accidents killing eight persons and critically injuring others. It will be in public interest to rectify this wrong and take measures to promote road safety on this high speed highway.

It was suggested to the NHAI that an underpass may be provided at Madanpur and a pedestrian over bridge at the Deo T-Junction along this NH. It is understood that the proposal to provide an underpass has been accepted but is to be constructed during the six laning of the NH as part of the NHDP V some time in 2011-12. Howsoever commendable this decision, its implementation will take time and till then accident situations, which will only worsen with heavier traffic volume, will continue to pose daily road safety hazards. This is thoroughly avoidable especially since the underpass, which is a standard road safety measure, need not be a part of the work of six-laning of NH 2. It is therefore suggested that it should be de-linked from the six-laning work and, at least, work on the preparation of its Detailed Project Report should begin and work on its construction taken up immediately after its completion.

The Deo T-Junction midway between Aurangabad and Madanpur, where the aforementioned fatal accidents have occurred, is another gravely accident-prone area. A pedestrian over bridge here will be an admirable road safety measure and its construction may be taken up without delay.

These road engineering features will conform to standard international road safety practice and will be in public interest. Early action will be greatly beneficial.