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Title: Need to complete the Bangalore-Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Project by 2010.

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR (DHARWAD SOUTH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

The Bangalore-Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Project (BMICP) has been facing hurdles right from the day one, that is, from the year 1995. This is one of the biggest and very good Projects and is meant to primarily ease the traffic between Bangalore and Mysore and it would reduce the travel time from 3 hour 50 minutes to 1 hour 5 minutes.

I would like to highlight here that M/s. Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprises (NICE) is the implementing agency and the Kalyani Group, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin and SAB Eng. – both are US companies – signed a contract in 1995 with the then Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri Deve Gowda. Later on, the Framework Agreement was signed on 3rd April 1997 with NICE Limited.

At present, Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprise (NICE) Limited is one of the premier implementing agencies of mega projects which has utilized the services of Satellite Imagery to determine the land required for the BMICP. Execution of BMICP would give a much-needed impetus to the economic growth of the region. This is undoubtedly going to be one of the world-class infrastructure facilities which would pave way to decongestion of the Bangalore city and on the NH4 and the NH7. Execution of BMICP would not only reduce fuel consumption but noise and air pollution would also significantly drop. This would also generate over 1,000 jobs directly and one lakh jobs indirectly. The Karnataka Government too would benefit in the form of Rs. 3,000 crore revenue from this Project.

It is pertinent to note that Ashok Kheny is one of the Managing Director, who hails from Karnataka and is Kannadiga, though it belongs to the US group. He is interested to develop this scenario. Would it not be nice on the part of the Government of Karnataka and its officials to extend unstinted support and encourage them to execute such people-friendly mega projects at a faster pace?

The important projects, for your kind consideration, include construction of truck terminals, providing rehabilitation and resettlement facilities, construction of bus terminals, construction of parking facilities, renovation of old temples, construction of mono rail projects, and carrying out desiltation of old tanks.

I am of the firm opinion that it is not out of place to plead with you to initiate immediate efforts to ensure that BMICP, which is going to be the lifeline of the State of Karnataka, is implemented without any further delay by removing all the hurdles put forth by politicians of all hues and the officials.

Therefore I would like to kindly request the Government of Karnataka, through you, to immediately complete this work. According to the Agreement, this mega Project has to be completed by 2010. It is 2007, already. Rs. 18,000 crore is expected to be invested in this Project. This Project is adopting 149 villages. This is one of the world-class Project; such a Project would not at all be found anywhere in India. It is one of the best Projects in India and in the world. Therefore, such a Project should be encouraged by all means.