Title: Need to convert two-lane road between Suryapet and Rajahmundry on NH-9 in Andhra Pradesh into four-lane road.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (KHAMMAM): Thank you, Chairman, Sir. I would like to raise an important issue concerning the National Highway in my Khammam districts having a population of about 30 lakh. We had raised the issue a number of times in the House and I have also written letters to the concerned Minister and also the Chairman, National Highways. Once again I wish to bring this issue, through you, to the attention of the Government. Actually, my district is an extremist affected district. Initially, all over India 33 districts were listed as extremist affected districts which included my district also. Now the number of extremist affected districts has risen to 60 which again include our district. The Government is giving money for the development of our district but it is not being utilized properly. I would like to tell the House that this is a totally backward and Scheduled Tribe district. NH-9 is to connect Suryapet to Khammam, which is the headquarter, and Khammam to Aswaraopeta to Kovvuru. This is a link between NH-9 and NH-5. This link is very important and it should be taken up by the NHAI immediately.

Another important National Highway runs from Vijayawada-Penuballi-Chandragonda-Kothagudem-Bhadrachalam. Bhadrachalam is a temple city which is also a backward city. I would request the Government, through you, to immediately take up the work on this National Highway also.