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Title: Need to sanction funds for construction of proposed underpass on N.H. 47 at court road junction in Chalakudy, Kerala.

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (CHALAKUDY): NH 47 is the major Highway of Kerala connecting cities like Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad and ends at Salem. The construction work for four laning of this NH 47 from Ankamali to Mannuthy is under progress for the last few years. At Ankamali, NH 47 joins with MC Road which is another major road connecting Ankamali to Thiruvananthapuram resulting in heavy traffic from Ankamali to its northern side. Chalakudy town is located at 15 Km north of Ankamali town which is the point for tourist destinations like Athirappilly, Vazhachal and Thumboormoozhi waterfalls where thousands of people visit throughout the year. At court road junction, Chalakudy, there is a proposal for an underpass primarily due to the acute traffic bottleneck experienced during the day time. Actually the proposal for the underpass was made in the year 2008. Govt. of Kerala vide its letter NO.18421/D1/20H/PWD dated 17.10.2011 had forwarded a resolution of the Sub- committee meeting dated 14.08.2011 for the construction of an underpass at Court road Junction, Chalakudy with entrance through Mala Road instead of the earlier proposed underpass at Municipal junction Chalakudy. However, no reply in this regard has been received so far. Delay in construction will worsen the horrible traffic congestion experiencing in the area and the cost of construction will also increase due to inordinate delay in completing the construction. It is learnt that the above proposal is pending with the NHAI authorities.

Hence I request that necessary action may be taken for according sanction for construction of the proposed underpass at Court junction in Chalakudy and also give necessary direction to MORTH and NHAI to complete the work as early as possible.