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Title: Demand for the four laning of Biramitrapur-Rajamunda-Barkote and Cuttack-Angul-Sambalpur stretches on NH-23 and NH-42 in Odisha.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): The Union Government has assigned the work of four laning stretches on various National Highways passing through Odisha to the National Highways Authority of India under the National Highways Development Project. Of which, the work of four laning of Biramitrapur-Rajamunda-Barkote and Cuttack-Angul-Sambalpur stretches on NH-23 and NH-42 respectively has not been awarded to the concessionaire by the NHAI so far despite repeated biddings during the last four years. Neither the Union Government nor NHAI has been taking responsibility of their repair and maintenance. With the result, these stretches are damaged to such extent where plying of vehicles has become dangerous and fatal.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to impress upon the NHAI to award the work of four laning of these stretches and take the responsibility of their upkeep at the earliest to avoid fatal road accidents.