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Title: Need to convert two lane bypasses to four lane bypasses and increase the number of toll gates at toll plazas on Chennai to Salem National Highway Nos. 45 and 68.

DR. K. KAMARAJ (KALLAKURICHI): National Highway 45 from Chennai to Theni is one of the busiest Highways that connects most of the districts including the capital in Tamil Nadu. There is traffic congestion at toll plazas (NH-45) Paranur, Athur, Vikiravandi and Sengurichi due to failure of the contractor to open all the toll gates. The traffic at toll gates is more than the capacity of the toll plazas to handle in terms of passenger car unit per day. Traffic congestion leads to inconvenience to the passengers, increase the travel time, air/noise pollution, increase fuel consumption and cost of traveling.

Another problem at the Highway 68 is that Two lane bypasses (Total Seven bypasses) from Ulundurpet to Salem have led to the increase in number of accidents at the bypasses. So, I request the Minister concerned to instruct the contractors to open all the gates, increase the number of gates at toll plazas and convert all two-lane bypasses to four-lane bypasses to decrease the number of accidents.