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Title: Need for construction of a road overbridge on NH-45 B.

SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE (THOOTHUKUDI): Hon. Speaker, Tuticorin is the hub of roadways connecting Tirunelveli, Tiruchendur and Madurai. The four-lane Highway, NH-45B, which connects VOC Port, Tuticorin and Madurai and by-passes Tuticorin, goes around the city. So, the four-lane Highway cuts at three places, namely, from Tuticorin to Madurai, Tirunelveli and Tiruchendur.

To approach Tirunelveli, the four-lane National Highway, 7A with road over-bridge is prevailing but there is only a circular road present at Tiruchendur crossing road at Uppodai which is an accident prone area due to non-availability of an over-bridge. Since 2011, 44 accidents have taken place there causing death of 15 people and 33 people have been grievously injured.

At Kurukuchallai Junction, the old traditional Tirunelveli to Rameswaram route crosses Tuticorin-Madurai Highway, NH-45B. Here also, many accidents happen due to the non-availability of an over-bridge. As these roads are used by many pilgrims and tourists from all over India who visit Kanyakumari, Rameswaram and Tiruchendur, people are suffering a lot due to the non-availability of an over-bridge with service road connectivity at Uppodai and Kurukuchallai Junctions.

I urge upon the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways to provide a road over-bridge at both Uppodai and Kurukuchallai Junctions at NH-45B.