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Title: Regarding need to expedite widening of National Highway No. 66 between Tindivanam and Krishnagiri in Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Madam Speaker, the world famous town of Tiruvannamalai is a holy Place in Tamil Nadu and situated on National Highway 66. It is a very important Road connecting the neighbouring States of Karnataka and Puducherry and it is an alternative road connecting Karnataka and Chennai. There is a plan of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to widen this NH-66 from Tindivanam to Krishnagiri at a cost of Rs. 561 crore, within a span of three years. The work was started in 2011 by Transtray, but till date the work has not been completed. Only few stretches have been widened. There are many diversions made for construction of bridge. Hence, the fleet operators are struggling to use this road and most of the operators are avoiding this road and are forced to use the other road namely Velore-Villupuram Road, due to which they incur huge financial loss and it takes much more time. If the work is completed early, it will be very helpful for economic development of the three Districts in Tamil Nadu and also beneficial for development of Tourism in the three States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Puducherry. Hence, I request the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Govt. of India to kindly issue orders to NHAI for timely completion of widening project of NH-66 between Tindivanam and Krishnagiri.