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Title: Need to expedite the construction of Motu-Sileru bridge across Sileru River on the Ranchi - Vijayawada highway.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): The construction of Motu-Sileru bridge across Sileru River on the Ranchi Vijaywada Highway has been delayed due to inability of the Government of Telangana in sending revised estimate to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways after getting the status of a separate State. It is expected that the construction of the said bridge is likely to be started after getting approval of the Union Government to such a revised estimate.

The Ministry of Home Affairs had sanctioned Rs.33.97 crore for construction of the said bridge on 8th March, 2011 with a target to complete it by 2 February, 2014 keeping in view the importance of the bridge in countering the Maoist menace in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. This bridge will not only provide better connectivity between Odisha and Andhra Pradesh but also enable people of Malkangiri district to access Hyderabad, Vijaywada and Khamman districts, thereby providing better connectivity to Maoist inflicted Malkangiri district of Odisha.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government to take up the matter of construction Motu-Sileru bridge over Sileru river on priority basis and impress upon the Government of Telengana to send the revised estimate immediately and approval of the same by the Union Government at the earliest.