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Title:Regarding need to build underpasses and elevated tollways on N.H. 46 between Vellore and Vaniyambadi in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN (VELLORE): The stretch of NH 46 between Vellore and Vaniyambadi is accident prone. The maintenance and operation of NH 46 is with the L&T Tollway Concessionaire which operates two toll booths at Pallikonda and Vaniyambadi. Most accidents take place in Sathuvachari, Naickeneri, SN Palayam, Ambur and Vaniyambadi. Numerous appeals have been made to the NHAI and its Concessionaire L&T Tollway Ltd. to construct underpasses at Sathuvachari, Naickeneri and Vaniyambadi; elevated tollway at Ambur; and to straighten the road bend at SN Palayam etc. In Vellore, NH 46 runs into a tangle. The Green Circle is at the crucial road junction, instead of helping ease traffic it constricts the traffic flow. Traffic moves on the wrong side of the road increasing the chances of accidents. The toll-booths collect the highest toll in the country. Even agricultural produce is not spared. Despite collecting the highest toll, the L&T Concessionaire does not keep ambulances to attend to the medical needs of the injured. The toll-booths employees do not treat the peoples' representatives with respect and display an arrogant behaviour. Both L&T toll booths are within a distance of 60 KM which is illegal. The Ministry should dismantle these toll booths. At Ambur, the NHAI intends to undertake road expansion which would affect the livelihood of about 50000 persons. Instead, the NHAI may take the road through an elevated structure and spare the people. I, therefore, request the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to direct the NHAI and L&T Concessionaire manning the NH 46 in Vellore District to build underpasses and elevated tollways, treat peoples' representatives with utmost respect, keep the tollbooths at 60 KM distance, reduce the toll charges to minimum and keep at least 2 Ambulances in a state of readiness to meet the medical emergencies.