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Title: Need to expedite the construction of outer Ring Road in Madurai city.

SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN (MADURAI): Respected Chairperson, with

the blessings of our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, I would like to raise once again the matter regarding completing the outer ring of Madurai.

Madurai city is the third biggest city in Tamil Nadu. It is a traditional city having potential to grow manifold in the coming years. The popular Meenakshi Amman Temple draws lakhs of people daily from all over the world. Being centrally located between the southern and northern districts of Tamil Nadu, Madurai well deserves to have all the hi-tech and updated infrastructure facilities. Construction of the Outer Ring Road around Madurai city is a very important one among such infrastructures. Madurai city is called as Thoonga Nagaram, a city that never sleeps. Such is the movement of traffic and people there.

On behalf of the people of Madurai, I would like to convey our gratitude for laying foundation stone for four-laning of Madurai to Ramanathapuram recently. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is the nodal organization to execute the construction of Outer Ring Road. Understanding the growth potential and the need of Madurai city, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* has already allocated Rs. 200 crore towards four-laning of the existing half ring road there. The efforts of our hon. *Amma* has to be complimented. Government has to direct NHAI to expedite the project and for acquiring the land required for the project. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to complete all the formalities and procedures for speedy completion of Outer Ring Road of Madurai in the public interest.