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Title: Regarding urgent need to expedite construction of Ennore-Manali Road improvement Project (EMRIP) in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU (CHENNAI NORTH): Sir, in my Constituency, there is a long pending Ennore-Manali Road Improvement Project by the NHAI. It was originally conceived in 1998 with an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore. This project envisages improvement of 30 kilometres road network in North-Chennai which connects all the container freight stations that can handle containers for the Chennai port. This project is vital not only for the future development of both Chennai and Ennore Ports but also for the Kattupalli Port located beside Ennore Port. It is considered as one of the dream projects for the trade. The delay in the execution of this project results in Rs. 75 lakh loss for the various logistics operations every day. It was estimated that if the road would have properly been laid, the trade could have generated by more than Rs. 30,000 crore business in the last five years. It is learnt that this project has been delayed for various reasons, including rehabilitation, fund allotment, no clear commitment from stakeholders.

Keeping in view of the importance of this project, I humbly urge upon the Union Government to kindly expedite this project and allocate adequate funds at the earliest.

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Assamese.