

Title: Need to declare Barhampur-Raipur-State road as National Highway.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (BERHAMPUR) (ORISSA): The State Government of Orissa has submitted a proposal to the Central Government for declaration of Gopalpur-Raipur Road in Khariar-Nawapura as a new National Highway. The State Government has been making this demand every year since 1983. Even a Resolution was adopted in 1982. All India Road Congress was held in Bhubaneswar to declare this particular State Road as National Highway. During those days there was a convention to declare a State Road as National Highway where the All India Road Congress was held. Accordingly, the State Government has been making this demand every year. This road will pass through tribal areas of the State and will promote inter-State communication and trade with Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and will work as a link between National Highway No. 43 at Raipur and National Highway No. 5 at Berhampur. This will provide hinterland to Gopalpur port. Apart from the three KBK districts, a drought-prone and backward district, Phulbani can be joined with the mainstream of communication. So, in the interest of these backward districts in Orissa, the Berhampur-Raipur State road be declared as National Highway without any further delay.