

Title: Need to bear entire cost of maintenance of Express Highway from Daitari to Paradeep in Orissa by the Central Government-Laid.

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL (JAGATSINGHPUR) : The 144 Km. long express highway from Daitari to Paradeep in Orissa was constructed mainly for the purpose of movement of heavy vehicle loaded with iron ore, chromite, bauxite, and other mineral from the mines sites of the State to Paradeep Port for export purpose. But the construction of express highway particularly from Marshaghai to Paradeep is getting damaged day by day due to lack of proper maintenance.

The cost of maintenance, repairs and expansion including development was to be borne by the State Govt. as well as the Central Govt. on 50 : 50 basis.

Immediate attention should be given for the proper maintenance and development of this express highway. Unless immediate steps are taken for the development of this express highway it will be very difficult to ply the trucks and other heavy vehicles on that highway. The trasport and export of iron ore through this road will come to stand still.

As such, I demand that the Central Govt. should bear the entire cost of the repairing, maintenance, widening and development of the express highway from Daitari to Paradeep from the 1998-99 financial year.