

Title: Need to provide a link road between Papanasam in Tamil Nadu and Trivandrum, Kerala.-Laid

SHRIS. MURUGESAN (TENKASI): There is a long pending demand from the people of Tenkasi constituency in particular and the people of Tirunelveli district in general especially from the merchant community and various other social organisations to provide a link road between Papanasam and Trivandrum via Nagercoil is 165 Kms. The distance via Shengottah is 234 Kms. But the distance so covered via Papanasam will be 110 Kms. This will bring down the distance to be travelled by saving the time and fuel to a great extent. Tuticorin is a port city and Trivandrum is already in the International Aviation Map. These two commercial destinations could be better linked via Papanasam. The agricultural products from Kadayam, Alangulam, Pavorchathiram and other areas are either marketed at Kollam or exported from Trivandrum. The agriculturists of these rural areas in my constituency would be greatly benefited by this link road.

In this proposed road a new road need to be laid only for a length of 6 to 11 Kms. That too will be on a grossly valley in the hilly areas neither the forest nor the environment will be affected. The remaining 32 Kms. of traditional road would require more widening. According to survey conducted in the year 1988 an expenditure of rupees three crore was estimated. A second survey conducted recently states that Rs. 15 crore would be required now. I urge upon the Union Government to give the clearance. I also request the Union Government and the Ministry of Surface to take up this with Tamil Nadu and Kerala Governments on a priority basis extending possible assistance from the Centre.