

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need for special funds to improve rural road connectivity in Manipur

SHRI THANGSO BAITE (OUTER MANIPUR): Manipur shares about 400Km long border with Myanmar. The topographical situation of the State comprises 10% valley regions and 90% hilly regions. The hilly region is inhabited predominantly by the tribals. As per the recent District reorganisation in the state by the state government, seven more new districts have been created in addition to the existing nine; which comes to a total of 16 districts in the state.

The bold step taken by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, which sanctioned for the construction of important highways in the state has been appreciated. In spite of that, the district Headquarters and Sub-Division Headquarters, Block Headquarters and villages are unconnected till today. It is a well known fact that the state is financially dependent on the Centre as the state resource is very limited. The road connectivity particularly in the hill districts is very poor and is in a pitiable condition. Owing to that, it is not possible to take up proper health education programmes which are the prime need of the people living in those areas.

As a matter of fact, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Rural Development to extend all possible help by providing special financial package to the tune of atleast Rs. 50,000 crore for rural connectivity in the ensuing financial year 2018-19.