

Demand for construction of a tunnel on NH-75, at Shiradi Ghat, Karnataka

श्री नारायण कोरागप्पा (कर्नाटक): धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय, मेरा विषय कर्नाटक से संबंधित है, इसलिए मैं कन्नड़ में बात करता हूँ। हमारे कर्नाटक में मंगलुरु से बेंगलुरु एनएच-75 का डिस्टेंस 350 किलोमीटर का है। * "The 350 km long stretch of the NH-75 at Shiradi Ghat area, connecting Mangaluru to Bengaluru, gets disrupted every year during the rainy season. For the last one month, the people of this region have been facing road connectivity issues.

Mangaluru, which is the second largest city in Karnataka, is famous as Tulu Nadu. The city of Mangaluru has various pilgrim centers and holy places along with an International Airport and a major sea-port and also well known industries like MRPL and MCF. The city is also a center for various educational institutions. Everyday thousands of buses enter the city of Mangaluru, including those carrying the pilgrims under the State Government's relevant scheme. But there is no guarantee that these buses would reach their destination safely.

Last week, i.e. on 26th July, one of the buses traveling from Mangaluru to Bengaluru, which had to go via Kerala, took a 1000 km long diversion and was delayed by 24 hours. There is a 237 km long 4-lane highway from Bengaluru to Mangaluru. On this highway, there should be a 23 km long tunnel just like the Pune-Mumbai tunnel. This would be a permanent solution to the problem. Only then the public there would travel safely between these two cities. Nowadays, there is no guarantee that one would reach Mangaluru safely after starting from Bengaluru and the duration of the journey is also unpredictable. 'Shiradi, Sampaje Charmady' are the three areas between Bengaluru, and Mangaluru that get disconnected every year due to landslides. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to provide the tunnel and road connectivity to this area. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the issue raised by the hon. Member, Shri Narayana Koragappa: Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu) and Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha),

Now, Shri Shambhu Sharan Patel — Demand to ease the credit card closure process across the country.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Kannada.