

अतः, मैं सदन के माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्र की चतुर्थ व तृतीय श्रेणी की सीधी 75% व विभागीय प्रोन्नति 25% में समान आरक्षण व्यवस्था के साथ-साथ "ख" व "क" श्रेणी के समान ही सभी श्रेणी में समान आरक्षण व्यवस्था लागू की जाए। सधन्यवाद।

### **Development of Rail Network in Orissa**

SHRI B. J. PANDA (Orissa): Sir, my Special Mention is about the pressing need for developing the rail network in Orissa. The historically-famous Kalinga State, which is today's Orissa, has abject poverty, illiteracy and backwardness. Afflicted with the super cyclone in 1999, ravaged by floods last year, and hit by unabated drought, Orissa has remained the most neglected State, in the matter of development. The cash starved State has all along been at the mercy of the Centre or the world agencies, for development. Rich in minerals, the State contributes a significant 30% of the total originating revenue-earning traffic of the South-Eastern Railway. The State has a very meagre rail route length per thousand square kilometres, of only 14.0 kms., as against the national average of 19 kms., and the adjoining States' figures of 30 and 43 kms. Similarly, the entire rail network is only 2340 km., in terms of route length. Though a number of rail-links, doublings, etc. and other projects have been sanctioned long ago, and the State Government has handed over land for construction of the rail network, the progress is quite dismal. The State Government has been reminding the Railway authorities for speedier development, but to not much avail. I would, therefore, urge upon the railway authorities that they should pay attention, in right earnest, complete all the on-going projects, and take up the other sanctioned projects for immediate completion, to generate employment and development of this beleaguered area. I would also request that the next production unit should be set up in this State.

SHRIMATI SUSHREE DEVI (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR (Orissa): Sir, I also associate myself with what Shri B. J. Panda has said.