

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the techno-economic feasibility survey, the new line is proposed parallel to the existing KRIBHCO siding.

(c) The construction will be taken up on completion of the project development, agreement of strategic partners in financial participation and sanction of the project. The construction of the project is expected to take about three years after sanction.

New train between Bhubaneswar and Baripada

1909. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had announced in the budget 2006 to provide a new express train between Bhubaneswar to Baripada three days in a week;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any constructive action regarding the above; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for delay of the project and by what time the above said train would be provided for the tribal people of the Mayurbhanj?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At present, only Diesel Multiple unit (Push pull) services can run at Baripada Station as this does not require any reversal of locomotive. To provide an Express train service between Baripada and Bhubaneswar it has to be run with conventional coaches which would involve reversal of locomotive for which presently infrastructural facility of a loop line does not exist at Baripada. Further, it is pointed out that Baripada is a steep gradient and it is not technically feasible to have loop line at the station due to safety considerations. It is proposed to have a station at Bhanjapur, 4 km beyond Baripada, where the loop line is proposed to be provided for which work is under process of sanction. The express train services will be introduced between Baripada and Bhubaneswar after completion of the work.