

Shekhar (Uttar Pradesh), Shri Samir Oraon (Jharkhand), Dr. Kalpana Saini (Uttarakhand) and Dr. Sonal Mansingh (Nominated).

धन्यवाद बिप्लब कुमार देब जी। श्री झाला केसरीदेवसिंह - 'Demand for more Sainik Schools in Gujarat'.

Demand for more Sainik Schools in Gujarat

SHRI KESRIDEVSINH DIGVIJAYSINH JHALA (Gujarat): Thank you, Deputy Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to speak today. In our country, the Sainik Schools have always been a unifying force. They have been institutes of patriotism and nationalistic pride, which prepare the leaders of tomorrow for the service of the nation. The sense of discipline imparted prepares the young boys and girls of our nation for any of the challenges in life. The goal of the Sainik School is to prepare the youth, academically and physically, for a career in the Armed Forces that include the Indian Army, the Navy and the Air Force. It also includes security agencies, such as the Central Industrial Security Force, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Research and Analysis Wing, National Security Guard, Intelligence Bureau, Rapid Action Force and Railway Protection Force. The demand amongst the aspirants for these schools is increasing on a yearly basis and this can be gauged from the fact that in the year 2023, 22,696 candidates were declared qualified in the written tests carried by the National Testing Agency. This is the agency that initiates the selection process that selects the future Manekshaws and the future Cariappas of our country. Training Academies for Officers that the Sainik Schools prepare cadets to join include the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla near Pune and the National Naval Academy in Kannur district of Kerala. The five Rashtriya Military Schools and the Rashtriya Indian Military College in Dehradun also contribute significantly.

Sir, the State of Gujarat is a border State, which shares international borders with Pakistan. It is also a coastal State which has one of the longest coastal areas of the country with, approximately, 1,600 running kilometres of coastal area. The Saurashtra and Kutch region is one of the few regions in our country with strong deployments and bases for all three Armed Forces, that is, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. This region has deployment of other security agencies like the BSF, the CISF and the Indian Coastguard. The Saurashtra and Kutch region is a key economic zone with industrial and economic installations such as large manufacturing units throughout the State and also ports, which include Kandla, Mundra, Sikka, Veraval and Alang. The geographical situation of the State and also the sites of key economic

units make Gujarat a favourable State to train personnel for the security establishments from within the State itself. The youth of Gujarat look up to famed military personality such as Rajendrasinhji Jadeja, who was the first Commander-in-Chief in the Indian Armed Forces, Major General Himmatsinhji, who served as a Major General in the Indian Army and was also India's first Deputy Defence Minister and Air Marshal Janaksinhji Gohil, who served as Air Marshal of the Indian Air Forces. Sainik Schools are very old establishments which have brought out ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your allotted time is over. It is no more going on record. माननीय सदस्यगण, इसमें आप सिर्फ 3 मिनट बोल सकते हैं। इसमें auto-cut है, इसलिए आपकी बात आगे रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाती है।

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member Shri Kesridevsinh Digvijaysinh Jhala: Dr. Sonal Mansingh, (Nominated), Shri Rambhai Harjibhai Mokariya (Gujarat), Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara (Gujarat), Dr. Amar Patnaik (Odisha), Shri Aditya Prasad (Jharkhand), Shri Shambhu Sharan Patel (Bihar), Shrimati Geeta alias Chandraprabha (Uttar Pradesh), Shri Sadanand Shet Tanawde (Goa), Shri Babubhai Jesangbhai Desai (Gujarat), Shri Nagendra Ray (West Bengal) and Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha).

Demand to expedite the construction of new Railway Line from Bolangir to Nuapada

SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for allowing me to raise an urgent matter of public importance for construction of a new railway line from Bolangir to Nuapada via Dhulusar-Chudapali-Bhainsa-Patnagarh-Gambhari-Khaprakhol-Lakhna. The East Coast Railway Zone had already sanctioned Rupees four crore thirty-five lakhs for final location survey of 100 km long new railway line from Bolangir to Nuapada. Though the final location survey work has already been completed, the East Coast Railway Zone has not started the work. Commercial viability is there. It will connect Chhattisgarh to Odisha and people across the country will be able to visit the world famous religious heritage site, the cultural heritage site and also the biodiversity heritage site of Gandhamardhan hills. Now, there is no railway connection to Harishankar temple and Gandhamardhan hill ranges; so, the devotees, visitors, and nature lovers are unable to visit Harishankar temple. Our State Government is ready to extend all kinds of support for construction of a new railway line from Bolangir to Nuapada. So, I urge the Government of India, through you, to expedite the construction process of the proposed Bolangir to Nuapada railway line.