

stretch of 119.5 km from Dharmapuri to Namakkal in Tamil Nadu from a four-lane to six-lane highway. The project is currently at the DPR stage. Sir, this highway connects the industrial and agricultural hubs of Tamil Nadu, facilitating the transportation of goods and people between Bengaluru and Kanyakumari. The stretch between Salem and Namakkal passes through the Puduchatram block panchayat, which has a high population density and is home to many industrial units, schools, colleges and agricultural activities. The people in the region are heavily dependent on Puduchatram. Hence, it is essential to construct an over-bridge to reduce the risk of accidents, ensuring greater safety. Therefore, I request that this may be included in the DPR.

Sir, Salem, a major city along this stretch, has a functional airport that serves as an important transit point. As you know, Namakkal is a poultry hub contributing 80 per cent of Indian egg export. This key trade route passes through this highway. This region presently faces severe traffic congestion, which requires urgent attention. Therefore, Sir, I urge upon the Minister of Road Transport and Highways to expedite the approval and allocation of funds. I also request the Government to give priority to this matter considering its significant impact on the region's economic safety and overall development. Sir, I would also request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs — he is not in the House — whose native place is Namakkal. So, I request the hon. Minister, Dr. L. Murugan, to support and associate himself with this matter and get funds for this project.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar: Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha) and Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha).

Shrimati Mamata Mohanta — 'Demand for establishment of New Steel Plant in Mayurbhanj, Odisha'.

Demand for establishment of New Steel Plant in Mayurbhanj, Odisha

श्रीमती ममता मोहंता (ओडिशा): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं ओडिशा के राइरंगपुर उपमंडल में एक मेगा स्टील प्लांट स्थापित करने की मांग पर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ। सर, जिले में पर्याप्त संसाधन और खनिज संपदा है। जिले के लोगों ने मेगा स्टील प्लांट की स्थापना के लिए अनंतापुर और कंटाबंजी के साथ-साथ आस-पास के इलाके के हजार निवासियों के ज्ञापन को कई बार सौंपा है। कई इस्पात कंपनी और एजेंसी इस क्षेत्र से लोहा और अन्य खनिजों का खदान कर रहे हैं। पिछले कुछ वर्ष से सिंचाई की सुविधा, कमी और अपर्याप्त बारिश के कारण

क्षेत्र में खेती प्रभावित हो रही है और इसका असर स्थानीय किसानों के आय स्तर पर पड़ रहा है। इस परिस्थिति में मयूरभंज जिले में एक मेगा स्टील प्लांट की स्थापना करने की जरूरत है, जिससे लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा, जिले के सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार आएगा। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करती हूँ कि इस विषय को महत्व देकर मयूरभंज जिले में एक मेगा स्टील प्लांट की स्थापना की जाए, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shrimati Mamata Mohanta: Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shrimati Rekha Sharma (Haryana), Shri Amar Pal Maurya (Uttar Pradesh), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha) and Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha).

Shri Rungwra Narzary — 'Demand for stoppage of all types of trains at Kokrajhar Railway Station in the Bodoland Territorial Region of Assam'.

Demand for stoppage of all types of trains at Kokrajhar Railway Station in the Bodoland Territorial Region of Assam

SHRI RWNGWRA NARZARY (Assam): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me opportunity to raise an important matter relating to the train connectivity of Assam. Kokrajhar Railway station, a gateway to North-Eastern Region from mainland India, is located at the heart of the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC), the headquarters of Bodoland. There is the Bodoland University, a Central Institute of Technology (CIT), Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) Secretariat and so many major offices of the Government.

People coming from different parts of the Bodoland area to Kokrajhar for official purpose are facing lots of difficulties due to lack of availability of Express/Mail train stoppage at Kokrajhar railway station to travel to and from Kokrajhar as well as different stations of the Bodoland area to their different destinations. There has been a long-standing demand from the train passengers of Assam at different railway stations which are to get approval from Railway Board.

Sir, I demand for stoppage of trains at Kokrajhar station: Lohit Express, Saraighat Express, Jammu-Tawi Express, Jha-jha Express, including all types of Express/Mail trains. I demand for stoppage of trains at Gossaigaon station: North-East Express, bound for Kamakhya to Anand Vihar, Delhi; Kamrup Express, bound for Dibrugarh to Howrah; Vibek Express, bound for Guwahati to Chennai; Bangalore Express, bound for Dibrugarh to Bangalore. I demand for stoppage of Bongaigaon to New Jalpaiguri (BNGN-NJP) Express at Dangtal station. I demand for stoppage of trains at Basugaon station: Koch Bihar to Kamakhya Intercity Express, Dhubri to