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Title: Request the government to re-route the Hirakud Express via Cuttack to facilitate both Sikh and Muslim Communities.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): It is a long-pending demand to start a direct train between Amritsar and Puri via Cuttack for the benefit of people belonging to Sikh community who are living in Amritsar, Cuttack, Puri and their adjoining areas. Similarly, people belonging to Muslim community, especially the Ahmedias, are demanding that Hirakud Express should be re-routed via Cuttack. The international headquarters of Ahmedia Muslim community is situated in Qadian, in the District of Gurdaspur, Punjab. In Odisha they are widely present in and around Cuttack District. They have requested time and again to re-route the Hirakud Express via Cuttack.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to re-route the Hirakud Express via Cuttack to facilitate both the communities whose presence is in large number in my constituency. Thank you.