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Title: Request to government to run one intercity express train connecting Rourkela, Balasore and Bhadrak via CKP, Keonjhar and Jajpur Road in Odisha.

SHRIMATI MANJULATA MANDAL (BHADRAK): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak in this august House. Through you, Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister of Railways to the problems of North Odisha and Western Odisha.

As you know, Sir, the steel city Rourkela is a smart city also. It is an industrial township located in the western part of the State. Near about three lakh people of districts like Bhadrak, Balasore, Keonjhar, Jajpur, Kendrapara and Mayurbhanj are residing at Rourkela for their livelihood.

Every now and then, people from Rourkela are travelling to their native places located in the above districts and are facing a lot of difficulties due to poor commuting facilities. There is only one train, that is, Puri-Haridwar Utkal Express, running through this route where timings of the train are not suitable. So, passengers are facing enormous problems. In this regard, North Odisha Rail Development and Coordination Committee have submitted their memorandum to the hon. Minister of Railways to take necessary steps to ply new trains.

In the above backdrop, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways, through you, to take necessary steps for running one inter-city express train connecting Rourkela, Balasore and Bhadrak *via* CKP,

Keonjhar and Jajpur Road. This rail link will connect North Odisha and Western Odisha passing through the above route. Thank you.