Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding resumption of Barbil-Puri Intercity Express and to provide train connectivity to major cities from Keonjhar district, Jharkhand.

KUMARI CHANDRANI MURMU (KEONJHAR): Sir, my Constituency, Keonjhar in Odisha, is one of the highest revenue generating districts of the State as it produces major minerals.

For the well-being of my people, an intercity train was being operated from Barbil to Puri inr which the general public were able to travel to the Capital city Bhubaneswar and to the holy land of Shri Jagannath, Puri for business, education, medical purpose as well as to offer prayers to Lord Jagannath. But during the COVID outbreak, the train had been suspended and has not resumed operations for which people of my Constituency are facing a lot of problems. In addition to this, for my people's convenience, major cities like Kolkata, Tatanagar, Vishakhapatnam and Delhi which have far more advanced facilities to be availed, needs connectivity with my district either by starting a new train operation or by diverting the existing trains routes through my district.

So, I would urge upon the hon. Railway Minister to take this urgent matter of concern into consideration, and allow resumption of operations of the Barbil-Puri Intercity Express and propose a way to access train connectivity to some of the major cities from my district in greater public interest.

Thank you very much.