

p>

Title: Need to resume the route of Venkatadri Express running between Kacheguda and Chittoori after completion of broad-gauge line.

SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV : I would like to bring to the notice of the Railway Minister an issue with regard to Venkatadri Express, which runs between Kacheguda and Chittoor. It needs immediate action. The line goes from Kacheguda to Kurnool, Gooty, Dharmavaram, Kadiri, Pakala, Tirupati and Chittoor, covering a major part of Anantapur district on metre-gauge. When metre-gauge was to be converted to broad-gauge line, the route of the train was diverted to Kadapa only to facilitate the gauge conversion works in Dharmavaram-Kadiri line. But now, despite the successful completion of conversion into broad-gauge line, the route of Venkatadri Express has not been resumed to the earlier one. The line had been started during the British period intending to facilitate the commuters to Tirupati from the most backward areas like Dharmavaram and Kadiri. In this regard, I request the Railway Minister to act at the earliest to resume the service via Dharmavaram and Kadiri.