

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:43
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009
RAILWAY NETWORK IN BACKWARD AREAS
Das Shri Bhakta Charan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have any plan to extend their network to backward areas of the country particularly to three most backward districts of Orissa i.e. Koraput, Kalahandi and Nawarangopur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Railways also have any plan to directly connect Kalahandi to Bhubaneshwar;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Railways to increase the frequency of Samata Express 2808?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b): Most of the ongoing new line projects have been undertaken primarily on socio-economic considerations to provide rail connectivity to backward, remote and under developed areas. Distrit wise details are not maintained. However, in the State of Orissa new line projects of Khurda-Bolangir, Talcher-Bimlagarh, Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh, Haridaspur-Paradeep, Angul-Sukinda are already in progress out of which Laljigarh Road - Junagarh project fall in the district of Kalahandi.

(c) & (d): There is no such proposal at present.

(e): Increase in the frequency of 2807/2808 Visakhapatnam-Hazrat Nizamuddin Samata Express is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.