

Title: Need to make Konkan Railway more user friendly to the people of Dakshin Kannada-Laid.

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI): The commissioning of Konkan Railway segment had kindled much hope among the people of coastal areas of Dakshin Kannada. The route saves much time and cost in travel from South to Mumbai and other northern destinations. Most of the stations in Dakshin Kannada like Kankanady and Udupi are intermediate stations and therefore not given much importance. The departure and arrival timings of most of the trains at Udupi and Kankanady are inconvenient to local passengers and travellers are forced to wait from midnight to dawn at stations to proceed home. The wayside amenities like waiting rooms, parking lots, refreshment rooms and platform vends are also lacking in most of the stations on the Konkan route. Konkan railway has not benefited the people of Dakshin Kannada as it should have. The people of the area lent their help for acquisition of land, labour etc. but in terms of facilities for travel as well as employment opportunities in KRC, the people from Dakshin Kannada do not get due benefit.

I call upon the Railway Minister to make the Konkan railway more user friendly and responsive to people of Dakshin Kannada in terms of more passengers/reservation amenities and employment opportunities.