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Title: Need for doubling of rail track between Kharagpur and Midnapore via Giri Maidan in West Bengal.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE) : Hon. Madam Chairperson, the Railway route from Kharagpur to Adra under South-Eastern Railway has become more important with the introduction of 2421/2422 Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express from the month of July, 2002. The train service has been improved remarkably on this line. The electrification is complete. Other than Rajdhani Express, so many super fast, express local passenger and goods trains pass through this line. About 64 trains pass every day. As there is a single line from Kharagpur to Midnapore via Giri Maidan at present, the passengers face a lot of difficulties due to delay of Railway traffic clearance. But from Midnapore to Kharagpur, no doubling of track has been done as yet. Only one Railway bridge on the river, Kansabati, is there. The age of this bridge is nearly hundred years. It seems to be weak and there is an apprehension of its breakdown at any time. So, the second bridge on the river Kansabati near Midnapore station is urgently needed. At the same time, the doubling of track from Kharagpur to Midnapore via Giri Maidan is urgently required. I urge upon the Ministry of Railways to take up the matter immediately.