

Title : Need to release adequate funds for speedy completion of Keonjhar-Daitari-Banspani Railway section in Orissa.

(viii) Need to release adequate funds for speedy completion of Keonjhar-Daitari-Banspani Railway section in Orissa

SHRIANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR): Sir, it is a matter of great concern that there is no direct rail link between Paradip and rich iron ore mines of Banspani-Barjamda-Barbil and Gandhamardan sector in Orissa. The construction of Daitari-Banspani-line is going on at a slow pace. The inordinate delay in the construction is the main bottleneck in the transport of iron ore by rail which has ultimately an adverse effect for export of iron ore through Paradip Port. On the other side, the single line section between Cuttack and Paradip is saturated and cannot take any more additional train until the track is doubled. Therefore, there is a need to expedite the construction of Daitari-Banspani rail link. At present, the iron ore from Keonjhar mines is being transported to Paradip by rail *via* Tatanagar, Kharagpur, Balasore, Jajpur-Keonjhar road and Cuttack in a circuitous route covering three States, namely, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Orissa.

I request the Central Government to sanction adequate funds for the speedy completion of rail line between Keonjhar and Daitari and the remaining stretch of Daitari-Banspani line during the financial year 2005-06.