Fourteenth Loksabha

Session: 7
Date: 07-03-2006

Participants: Gowda Shri D.V. Sadananda

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Title: Regarding commencement of Mangalore-Bangalore train.

SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA (MANGALORE): Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways is continuing the step-motherly treatment to the State of Karnataka especially in running the trains even after completion of gauge conversion. Practically, the gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan railway line was pending since last ten years. Only in the month of July, 2005 the Mangalore-Subramanya railway line was made operational. After the commissioning of Mangalore-Subramanya line, I repeatedly raised this issue on the floor of the House to quicken up the pace of Subramanya-Sakleshpur gauge conversion work and to start Mangalore-Bangalore train by the end of September, 2005. During the inauguration of Mangalore-Subramanya line, the hon. Minister of State for Railways had assured in a public meeting that the Subramanya-Sakleshpur railway line would be completed by the end of October, 2005 and a new train will start in the month of November, 2005. The gauge conversion work from Subramanya to Hassan has been completed in the month of November, 2005 itself. Again the hon. Minister of State for Railways assured that the new train would start before the commencement of first Mahamasthakabhishekha of the century of Bhagwan Bahubali at Shravanabelagola in Hassan district. Till now no passenger train ran in this area. The Mahamasthakabhishekha celebration has come to an end on 19th February. 2006[krr74].

In this regard, I had personally requested the Railway authorities to operate the passenger train in this area. Presently, goods trains are running in this area. Now, people of this area are eagerly waiting for early operation of train, but no sign of starting of a passenger train is indicated by the Railway authorities.

Now, it has appeared in the newspapers that the General Manager of South-Western Railway, Shri Triloknath Perti, has said that train between Bangalore and Mangalore will run only by year end. Further, he explained that presently only goods trains are being run on risky stretches of the track between Hassan and Mangalore. This statement has given shocking news to the people of Karnataka. This shows that the Railway Ministry is deliberately giving step-motherly treatment to the State of Karnataka, especially the southern part of Karnataka. Hence, I urge upon the Government and the Railway Minister, through you, to commence the Railway operation between Subramanya-Sakleshpur, that is, Bangalore and Mangalore immediately so as to facilitate the public of Karnataka.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री सुधाकर रेड्डी, श्री चेंगरा सुरेन्द्रन, श्री सी.के. चन्द्रप्पन, श्री पन्नियन रवीन्द्रन, इन सब का एक ही मेटर है, जिस माननीय सदस्य ने इस पर बोलना है, वह बोल ले। And others will be associated.