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Title: Need to expedite the introduction of Ranchi-Bhubaneswar Garib Rath and construction of Khurda Road - Bolangir rail line project .

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH (PHULBANI): Sir, during the last year Rail budget Hon'ble Railway Minister had announced to start a Garib Rath between Ranchi and Bhubaneswar, but so far it has not been done.

Also, there is a long pending demand from the people of Orissa to provide rail link to the tribal dominated areas. The final location survey for the Khurda Road - Bolangir new rail line project has been completed but railways are not very keen to acquire the land. They have so far acquired 1000 acres of land out of 5500 acre required for the project. This new line rail project was included in the Railways Budget in the year 1994-95. Though the original cost of the project was Rs. 355 crore (approx.) but the delay has led to cost-escalation. Khandamal, which is part of my Parliamentary Constituency is not going to get the benefit of Khurda - Bolangir rail line. I being a representative of the area had several time requested the Ministry of Railways to link Khandmal with Bharampur.

Sir, I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister for Railways to kindly expedite the introduction of Ranchi-Bhubaneswar Garib Rath besides expediting the work relating to land acquisition and other civil work for Khurda Road -Bolangir rail line. The Hon'ble Railway Minister may also consider sympathetically to link Khandmal with Baharampur.

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\* Treated as laid on the Table.