DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (NAGARKURNOOL): There was proposal to construct a new Railway line of 292 Kms. between Raichur in Karnataka to Macherla in Andhra Pradesh passing through Gadwal, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool, Kalwakurthy, Devarakonda and Nagarjunasagar.

This line passes through the most backward area in Andhra Pradesh i.e. Mahaboobnagar which will help to create employment for the locals.

During 1997-98 a part of this line i.e. Gadwal and Raichur was sanctioned. The latest estimation is Rs. 207.80 crores for this project and so far only Rs. 50 crores has been spent on this project. I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to sanction at least Rs. 50 crores for the Raichur - Gadwal Railway line.

The remaining part i.e. Gadwal and Macherla is pending for construction. As this line will help in the development of the backward areas i.e. Raichur District in Karnataka and Mahaboobnagar in Andhra Pradesh. I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to take necessary steps to sanction the new Railway line between Gadwal to Macherla at the earliest.