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Title : Need to provide adequate funds for doubling of railway line from Delang to Puri in Orissa.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (KANDHAMAL): Puri in Orissa, the land of Lord Jagannath is one of the four Dhams of the country. Every year lakhs of pilgrims from all parts of the country visit Puri round the year. The total length from Khurda Road Station to Puri Railway Station is 45 Kms. out of which doubling of sixteen Kms. from Khurda Road to Delang has already been completed & the survey for doubling of Delang - Puri section was completed in the year 2007-08 but unfortunately the work has been stopped on the ground that the proposed doubling is unremunerative, which is very unrealistic & painful. If the doubling of Khurda Road – Puri is not completed, the expenditure incurred on Khurda Road to Delang will be a wastage. It is not clear how & why the Railways Ministry is considering for Khurda Road - Puri uneconomic when lakhs of tourist visit this holy place every year.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to immediately provide adequate funds for completion of second phase of doubling of railway line upto Puri.