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Title : Need to merge Waltair Railway Division of the East Coast Railways with South Central Railways.

DR. KRUPARANI KILLI (SRIKAKULAM): The Waltair Railways Division of the East Coast Railways has the jurisdiction of North Coastal Districts of Andhra Pradesh namely Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam Districts and parts of East Godavari District. Most of the the offices are mainly concentrated around Visakhapatnam Port and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. The people of this area, Chamber of Commerce, trade and industry are finding it difficult to go to Bhubaneswar. The Corporate Offices of most of the industries and the business Houses are located in Hyderabad. About 95% of the staff of the division are from Andhra Pradesh. There has been a long pending demand for the merger of Waltair Railway Division with South Central Railway and the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also written to the Minister of Railways in this regard. I, therefore, request the Minister of Railways, through you Madam, to take immediate necessary steps to merge Waltair Railway Division with South Central Railways.