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Title: Need to run a superfast train between Guntur in Andhra Pradesh and Delhi.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Madam, this is a request for introducing a direct train between Guntur, the new Capital of Andhra Pradesh and New Delhi. Guntur is the third largest populous city in Andhra Pradesh and it is no exaggeration when I say that this region is identified as a major industrial region in India along the corridor up to Visakhapatnam. It has been identified to establish the new capital to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

From rich cultural heritage in the form of ancient temples such as Amaravathi, Mangalagiri, Vykuntapuram and Ponnur to tourist destinations such as Kotappa Konda, Amaravathi Museum, Nagarjuna Sagar, Vundavalli Caves, Kondaveedu Fort, Suryalanka beach to India's one of the largest universities - Acharya Nagarjuna University - Guntur has carved its niche in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Being one of the leading producers of paddy, cotton and chillies, Guntur is a centre for business and commerce, agriculture and industry. The city also hosts one of the largest Asian markets for red chillies. The Tobacco Board is also headquartered in Guntur.

In spite of having these many positive aspects and advantages, unfortunately, Guntur does not have a direct train from the Capital of the country. It is the policy of the Railways to run one direct superfast train between the State Capital and the country's capital. The people and public representatives have been demanding since many years for a direct train between Guntur and New Delhi, but nothing has been done so far. We assure you that it will meet all the commercial parameters of Railways as Guntur has immense tourist, passenger and commercial potential; in fact, it crosses those parameters by leaps and bounds.

In view of the above, I would request you to kindly consider favourably for an exclusive superfast Train between Guntur and New Delhi.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary – not present.