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Title: Need to expedite the proposed metro rail project between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar and extend the project to Puri and Konark via Jatna and Khurda in Odisha.

SHRI PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (BHUBANESWAR): In August, 2014, an agreement was signed between the Housing and Urban Development department of Odisha and the Secunderabad based Balaji Railroad System Limited for the metro rail services of 30 kms. between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. In this regard, fifty per cent expenditure will be borne by the State and remaining 50 per cent by the Central Government. Though the agreement was made in August, 2014, no initiative for preparation of complete mobility plans has been made so far. I would also like to suggest from the view point of development of tourism industry in Odisha, the proposed metro rail route between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar may be extended up to Puri and Konark via Jatni and Khurda.

I would, therefore, like to urge upon the Government to expedite the project and sanction its extension.