

Title: Need to introduce a Shatabdi train between Sealdah and New Jalpaiguri in West Bengal.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (MURSHIDABAD): Sir, Darjeeling is one of the best hill stations of our country. Both national and international tourists come to Darjeeling hill station throughout the year. Not only, that, Siliguri under Darjeeling district is developing second to Calcutta. The State Government of West Bengal have tried their best to develop Siliguri as an industrial zone. Hindustan Lever has already built up its factory and production has started. Other industrial houses are also coming up. But communication between Calcutta and Siliguri is in a horrible situation. There is no daily and frequent airlines service. There is a small train, called Darjeeling mail, which is taking nearly 17 hours from Calcutta to New Jalpaiguri. It is nearly seven hundred kilometres away from the capital of West Bengal. I urge upon the Government of India to introduce a Shatabdi train between Sealdah and New Jalpaiguri, which will attract more tourists and also help industrial develop in this area.