

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Demand to keep Waltair Railway Division at Vishakhapatnam.

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI (ANAKAPALLE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, South Coast Railway Zone is the long-pending demand of the people of North Andhra Pradesh. I thank the Union Government and the Railway Ministry for sanctioning the Zone and recently appointing a Special Officer, and sanctioning Rs.300 crore for the zonal activities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a small demand. It is headquartered in Vishakhapatnam. The Waltair Division is the fifth highest revenue generating division of the Indian Railways. But taking the division 350 kilometres away from Vishakhapatnam to Vijayawada will create operational and disaster management issues in terms of delayed response to accidents and reduced oversight on safety and maintenance.

Hence, keeping these points in view, I request the Government to keep the Waltair Division alive and finalize its contours with the Rayagada Division keeping in mind the sentiments of the people of Andhra Pradesh. Thank you very much, Sir.