

## Regarding construction of a new railway line and creation of a separate Railway Division at Jajpur-laid

SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI (JAJPUR): There is an urgency for a new railway line from Jajpur-Keonjhar Road to Dhamra-Road to connect industrial areas in the district to the deep seaport in Bhadrak. A survey was carried out for construction of the 95.950 kilometres length of the new railway route. The survey officials had estimated that East Coast Railways would reap a profit of 33% from construction of this new rail route. However, the proposed railway line has been shelved in final RET survey. The proposed new line will pass through Jajpur town which is the abode of Goddess Biraja and Aradi. Besides, it will help in export of steel products manufactured in this region through Dhamra port. Jajpur has four railway junctions, six goods train sheds and 21 stations. It is around 100 kms. from Bhubaneswar and Paradeep and Dhamra ports. 98% of chromites in India are from Jajpur and it is where Kalinga Nagar, one of the biggest industrial zones in Asia is located. The district has a vast potential in tourism. A separate railway division in Jajpur will ensure administrative smoothness and it will add value to economic development. I request the Government for favourable consideration of above mentioned issues on priority basis.