

Regarding new railway line from Talcher to Gopalpur Port

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Hon. Chair, Cuttack has become very saturated. The lines from Bhubaneswar to Kapilas Road via Cuttack and from Barang to Kapilas Road *via* Cuttack have become very saturated. A large number of freight trains are running from Talcher to Paradip though there is a different line or a second line from Haridaspur to Paradip which has been commissioned. It is a just a single line for freight traffic.

Therefore, it is necessary, now, to have a third line from Barang to Kapilas Road. Earlier, 20 years ago, a second line has been constructed from Kapilas Raod to Barang. There is a need for construction of three or four railway bridges on rivers Birupa, Mahanadi, Kathajodi, and also Kuakhai. There is a need, now, to have a third line from Barang to Kapilas Road so that most of the superfast trains can travel through Cuttack. Some long-distance trains, which are travelling to Amritsar and Jaisalmer and bypassing Cuttack, need to ply through Cuttack Railway Station also. I would be happy if the Government takes up this third line on an urgent basis.

Thank you, Sir.