

Need to provide budgetary support for railway infrastructure development in Nashik, Maharashtra in view of Sinhastha Kumbh Mela proposed to be held in the state.-laid

SHRI RAJABHAU PARAG PRAKASH WAJE (NASHIK): I would like to draw the attention of Government to the urgent need for focused railway infrastructure development in Nashik in view of upcoming Sinhastha Kumbh Mela. Nashik is expected to witness an unprecedented inflow of lakhs of devotees from across the country, and the existing railway infrastructure is inadequate to handle such a large-scale pilgrimage movement efficiently. While cities like Prayagraj have received substantial financial assistance ? exceeding ₹2,000 crore ? for Kumbh-related railway projects, similar support is necessary for Nashik. Key proposals requiring urgent attention include: renovation and modernisation (Multimodal) of Nashik Road railway station; fast-tracking of critical projects such as the Nashik? Pune railway line, Manmad?Malegaon?Indore rail link, and Nashik?Dahanu rail connectivity; introduction of suburban local train services from Nashik to Mumbai, Bhusawal, Dhule, and Sambhajinagar; and long-distance train services from Nashik to Surat, Jodhpur, Kolhapur, Pandharpur, Puri, Ajmer, and Chennai. Additionally, around 250 acres of available railway land in Nashik should be utilised for establishment of a locomotive and coach manufacturing or maintenance unit. I urge the Government to ensure timely implementation and adequate budgetary support for these projects, which are essential for the success of the upcoming Kumbh Mela and the long-term economic development of the region.