

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

माननीय सभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, जिन सदस्यों को आज नियम 377 के अधीन मामलों को उठाने की अनुमति दी है, वे मामले के अनुमोदित पाठ को व्यक्तिशः या व्यक्तिगत रूप से 20 मिनट के भीतर सभा पटल पर प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं।

? (व्यवधान)

Need to develop Metro Rail connectivity in Siliguri and adjoining areas in West Bengal-Laid

SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING): Siliguri is the second largest urban centre in West Bengal, after Kolkata. More than 10,00,000 residents live in Siliguri and surrounding areas. Siliguri is a transit hub that connects to tourist destinations in Darjeeling, Sikkim, Dooars, and North East states. It is also called as "Gateway to Northeast India" and is a major trading centre directly connected to international borders with Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh. Siliguri connects the Eastern Himalaya regions including states of Bihar, Sikkim, Assam and rest of West Bengal. However, lack of urban transportation infrastructure has hampered Siliguri's growth potential. Because of poor public transportation system, roads have become extremely congested. People have to suffer jam of over 3-4 hours in their daily commute. I am therefore requesting the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to consider the development of Metro Rail connectivity in Siliguri and adjoining areas. Metro rail will serve over 50,000 daily commuters, reduce traffic, and boost tourism revenue. It will also connect major transit points like the Bagdogra Airport and New Jalpaiguri Railways stations. Introducing Metro Services will propel Siliguri, Darjeeling hills, and Terai region into an engine of growth. It will also address the urban transportation deficiency, boost local economy and tourism sector.