

Regarding setting up the Rayagada Railway Division and various railways issues pertaining to Koraput Parliamentary constituency

SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA (KORAPUT): Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I would like to raise a very important issue of my constituency, regarding the Rayagada Railway Rail Division. It was announced way back, around eight years ago, and only last year the inauguration was done by the hon. Prime Minister to set up the Rayagada Railway Division. But, unfortunately, the non-notification of the Railway Division is causing serious problems. All decisions are taken remotely from Visakhapatnam, and when the divisional review meeting occurred, it happened in the Waltair Division. There has been no divisional review meeting for the Rayagada Railway Division. There is no divisional control office, and there is no local operating, engineering, mechanical, electrical, or S&T setup. There are no coaching depots, pit lines, wash sheds, stabling lines, or wagon examination facilities. This prevents new trains from starting from this particular location. For any new train, it is always stated that local pits, pit lines, washing sheds, etc., are needed.

Through you, Madam Chairperson, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to notify the Rayagada Railway Division immediately, as it is causing serious operational problems. We want to establish the DRM office with full departments, including operating, engineering, S&T, mechanical, electrical, etc. We request the establishment of the control unit, wash sheds, stabling lines, C&W depot, and S&T and electrical maintenance facilities. There is a demand from the people for a new daytime train from Koraput to Bhubaneswar via Rayagada. Additionally, we want to extend the Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat train to Koraput, so that the people from Koraput and Rayagada can avail themselves of the Vande Bharat facility. Thank you.