

Title : Need to provide compensation to the farmers of Cooch-Behar whose lands have been acquired on Mainagiri-Jogikhoba railway section.

SHRI HITEN BARMAN (COOCH BEHAR): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir.

A serious problem has arisen in my constituency of Cooch-Behar in West Bengal. A new railway line from Mainagiri to Jogikhoba is being constructed by the Railways. A large number of farmers, particularly those who hold *pattas*, who are affected, have not yet been paid compensation. According to the clarification of the Government of West Bengal, the holders of *patta* shall be compensated either by allotment of another piece of land or by way of cash to be paid by the Railway Board. So, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways, through you, and request him to make arrangements for the farmers to be paid their dues by the Railway Board so that the work on the railway line could be completed at an early date.