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Title : Regarding need to expedite the doubling work of railway line between Sonarpur and Canning besides providing adequate facilities at Canning Railway Station in West Bengal.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR): I wish to mention the matter regarding expediting the work of doubling of railway line between Sonarpur and Canning and the proposed development works at Canning Railway Station besides extending the railway line from Canning to Sonakhali, under Sealdah Division (West Bengal).

In the absence of double line, a lot of hardships are being experienced in the transportation of huge volumes of sea food, vegetables and dairy products produced there. The first phase of the project (Sonarpur to Ghotiarisherrif) is nearing completion. Ghotiarisherrif is a pilgrimage place being religious functions. Therefore, expeditious execution of the doubling work of Phase-I and taking up the second phase (Ghotiarisherrif to Canning) immediately would ease the transportation of these goods which in turn will fetch more revenues to the Railways. Also the work for extending the line from Canning to Sonakhali is to be taken up.

Canning is the gateway of Sundarbans, which is being visited by thousands of inland as well as foreign tourist from October every year. However, there are no waiting rooms, catering facilities in the Station and the approach road is in a very dilapidated condition causing lot of inconvenience to the tourists. Therefore, the developmental works proposed for Canning station should be done on a war footing.

I urge upon the Government to expedite the above mentioned works in the public interest.

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