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Title: Need to allocate funds for construction of new broad gauge railway line between Bhadrachalam and Kovvur in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (KHAMMAM): I want to bring to the notice of Hon'ble Railway Minister that Kovvur-Bhadrachalam railway line in Andhra Pradesh was proposed way back in 1969. With great difficulty it was finally included in the 2009 budget session. I took up the proposal with the Minister and was successful in convincing the Railway board about the economic viability of the project. The broad gauge line would cut short the distance between Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam by about 130 Kilometers, besides connecting the region with the major ports on the east coast. Industrial pockets such as Kothagudem, Yellandu, Madaram, Paalvancha, Sarapaka, Aswpuram and Manuguru would also have easy access to major cities in the State. Also 200 villages of the remote tribal belt will be facilitated. The people in the region would get the advantage of greater mobility sought to be provided by the project. Various companies which had been depending on the road transportation for supply of coal to many of its bulk consumers would also be benefited by switching over to rail transport. Keeping in view of all the above, I once again request the Minister to look into the matter personally and initiate steps for allocating funds and laying of foundation stone so that the work may start on this new rail connectivity from Bhadrachalam to Kovvur broad gauge railway line.