

an>

Title: Need to name the Puri-Paradip superfast express as Mahakabi Sarala Das superfast express.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue for the consideration of the hon. Minister of Railways to name the Puri-Paradip Super Fast Express Train in the name of Mahakabi Sarala Das.

Madam, I would like to state that Sarala Das, known as Adikabi and Sudramuni is a 15th Century poet and scholar of Odia literature. It is hard to believe that how a self educated man from a remote hamlet named Kanakpur of coastal Odisha, which is in my Parliamentary Constituency Jagatsinghpur, could venture an incredible feat to write the Mahabharata, Ramayana and Chandi Purana along with many more in Odia. It is important to note that he is the first scholar to write in Odia. As an originator of Odia literature, his work has formed an enduring source of information on Odisha's history, religion, civilization, culture, philosophy etc. for succeeding generations. The sense of Odia nationality has appropriately been reflected in his writings.

So, to memorize the contribution of such a great personality, I would like to urge upon the Minister of Railways to name the Super Fast Express Train running between Puri and Paradip *via* his birthplace, Kanakpur in Jagatsinghpur as Mahakabi Sarala Das Super Fast Express Train.

HON. SPEAKER:

Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi and

Kunwar Pushendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Kulamani Samal.