

Sixteenth Loksabha

an>

Title: Regarding completion of Chikmagalur-Sakleshpur railway line.

KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE (UDUPI CHIKMAGALUR): Chikmagalur-Sakleshpur railway line project in Karnataka is one of the important projects for the development of Malnad area in the State. The project is being taken up on a cost-sharing basis. Once the project is completed, it will enable better connectivity towards Mangalore, Hubli, Mumbai and Bengaluru. The 47-km line passes through Nadihalli, Belur, Bikkodu, Masavalli, and Halsugipetta to reach Sakleshpur. This line is a step closer to the completion of the Chikmagalur-Belur-Sakleshpur rail line project sanctioned during 1996—97. It is going to be useful to link Chikmagalur either from Hassan or Sakleshpur, as trains from Mysore to Hubli and Shimoga could be diverted along Chikmagalur town instead of Hassan - Arasikere route. The line will facilitate better connectivity and spur development of villages. I request the Railway Minister for the release of at least Rs. 100 crore to speed up this railway line.