

Bill No. XIV of 2018

THE RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

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BILL

further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Railways (Amendment) Act, 2018.

Short title and
commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date, as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

24 of 1989. 5

2. In section 3 of the Railways Act, 1989, after sub-section (4), the following shall be inserted, namely:—

Amendment of
section 3.

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“(4A) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section the Central Government shall, by notification, constitute a new Zonal Railway with headquarter at Vishakhapatnam consisting of the Waltair Railway Division of the East Coast Railway Zone and Vijayawada, Guntur and Guntakal Railway Divisions of the South Central Railway Zone.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The division of the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh in the year 2014 left the residual State of Andhra Pradesh with a number of challenges and disadvantages. To overcome such difficulties and to make up for the loss of resources, establishment of a separate railway zone was promised to the residual State of Andhra Pradesh under the Thirteenth Schedule as per section 93 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

Consequent upon reorganisation of the State of Andhra Pradesh, none of the Railway zones operating in the State of Andhra Pradesh has its headquarters within the State. This has caused great inconvenience to the public of the State of Andhra Pradesh. The concerns of railway commuters of the State are no longer the priority of any of the railway zones. People from the State have to travel all the way to the neighbouring States of Odisha and Telangana to the Zonal headquarters. A separate railway zone which caters to the special needs of the State and for strengthening infrastructure is directly needed.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend the Railways Act, 1989 with a view to constitute a new Zonal Railway headquarter at Visakhapatnam consisting of the Waltair Railway Division of the East Coast Railway Zone and Vijayawada, Guntur and Guntakal railway divisions of the South Central Railway Zone.

Hence this Bill.

DR. T. SUBBARAMIREDDY

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 2 of the Bill seeks to constitute a new Zonal Railway headquarter at Visakhapatnam consisting of the Waltair Railway Division of the East Coast Railway Zone and Vijayawada, Guntur and Guntakal railway divisions of the south Central Railway Zone. The Bill, therefore, if enacted, will involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is likely to involve an annual recurring expenditure of about rupees one hundred crore from the Consolidated Fund of India.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees two hundred crore is also likely to be involved.

RAJYA SABHA

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further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.

(Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, M.P.)