

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 126
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024**

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RAILWAY LINE

***126. SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering the construction of a new railway line connecting Phulbani in Kandhamal district, Odisha to the existing railway network;**
- (b) if so, the current status of the project, including the timeline for commencement and completion thereof and the budget allocation for the same;**
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay;**
- (d) the expected socio-economic benefits of this railway line for the people and the surrounding region of the said district for improving connectivity, boosting trade and enhancing tourism potential; and**
- (e) whether the Government has any alternative plans to improve transportation infrastructure in the region?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF
STARRED QUESTION NO. 126 BY SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI
TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.12.2024 REGARDING
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RAILWAY LINE**

(a) to (e): Rail connectivity for Kandhamal District is proposed to be provided by Rairakhol – Gopalpur new line project being taken up by Odsiha Rail Infrastructure Development Limited (ORIDL), a Joint Venture company of Government of Odisha and Ministry of Railways. Detailed Project Report (DPR) for this new rail line was prepared by ORIDL. However, the alignment of proposed new line was not passing through Phulbani which was in contravention to the In-Principle Approval (IPA) granted to ORIDL. Therefore, ORIDL has been advised to review the alignment of Gopalpur – Rairakhol new rail line. The Project is not yet sanctioned.
