

**All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party**

C/o All India Trinamool Congress

30B Harish Chatterjee Street

Kolkata: 700026

**To**

**18 March, 2015**

**Suresh Prabhu**

**Minister of Railways,**

**Government of India,**

**New Delhi**

Respected Sir

**Subject:** Urgent need to clear pending funds for railway projects in West Bengal

Thank you for giving us time to meet with you in your office this Wednesday (18 March, 2015) afternoon.

Participating in the debate in response to your Budget speech, MPs from the All India Trinamool Congress in both Houses raised the key issue of how Bengal was neglected in Budget allocations.

Sir, at this moment we are not asking you to start any new major project. We are urging you to clear the existing projects. In your Budget speech, you had outlined a similar rationale.

Please address this issue on an urgent basis otherwise all those projects which have already started in Bengal will all be stalled, causing hardship across the State.

**Please find here a summary of the railway projects in West Bengal, which will be severely hit because of inadequate funding.**

**Additionally, our colleagues are providing you specific constituency-wise requests seeking your intervention and early action.**

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## **Summary of Railway Projects Deprived of Funds in Bengal:**

**1. East-West Metro** - Project cost is Rs 4700 crore. Allocation is only Rs 500 crore.

### **2. Kolkata Metro projects:**

Estimated cost is Rs 10,398 thousand crore. Allocation: Rs 580 crore

Project	Required (cr)	2015-16 (crore)
Dumdum-Baranagar-Noapara-Airport	409	50
Noapara-Barasat (via Airport)	2081	140
Baranagar-Barrackpore	1879	80
Airport-New Garia	3236	240
Joka-BBD Bag	2372	70
Kolkata Circular Railway	404	2

### **3. Disparity in allocation:**

- **Total allocation for projects in Bengal:**  
2011-12 was Rs 10k crore  
2012-13 was Rs 6k crore.  
2015-16: Rs 3k crore
- Total project cost: **Rs 1500 crore for workshops** and factories at Kanchrapara, Dankuni, Noapara, Kharagpur, Liluah and other places. .  
**Only Rs 90 crore allocated.**

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	Name of the Project	Requirements	Allocation in 2015-16
1.	Kanchrapar New Rail Coach Factory	838	8
2.	Kharagpur Workshop	102	1
3.	Noyapara Workshop	146	0
4.	Dankuni Railway Equipment Factory	41	2.5
5.	Modernisation of Liluah Workshop	96.5	5

## 4. Negligible allocation for Social schemes:

Project	Required (crore)	Allocation in 2015-16 (crore)
Behala Indoor Sports Complex	24	3.33
Shambhu Mitra Cultural Centre	30	0.0001
Garden Reach Nursing College & Hostel	26	0.01

**5. Government must rejuvenate the Toy train** in Darjeeling. It is a UN Heritage Site.

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**6.** Government must also consider setting up **elephant corridors** in north Bengal to prevent the rising incidents of elephant death due to railway accidents.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for acknowledging the visionary contribution of former Railway Minister Ms Mamata Banerjee in your Budget speech:

*“One of the persons whom I admire most and also really love and respect is Mamata Banerjee. I am very happy that there has been such a consistency in thinking like this. I should be very happy to say that Indian Railways are definitely trying to take forward the ideas, the philosophies of Kumari Mamataji”*

**Signed by:-**

**Derek O’Brien,**

Leader of All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party (Rajya Sabha)

**Kalyan Banerjee,**

Chief Whip of All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party (Lok Sabha)

**Sukhendu Sekhar Ray,**

Chief Whip of All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party (Rajya Sabha)