

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2197
ANSWERED ON 06.08.2021

TRACK DOUBLING IN KERALA

2197. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress in the track doubling work in Kerala;
- (b) whether the construction is going as per the schedule; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2197 BY DR. V. SIVADASAN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 06.08.2021 REGARDING TRACK DOUBLING IN KERALA

(a) to (c): Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise, not State wise, as Indian Railway's Network span across various State boundaries. However, presently, total 06 doubling projects of total length 293 Km, costing ₹6,196 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of Kerala are in different stages of planning/sanctioning/execution and an expenditure of ₹784 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021.

Kerala is covered under Southern Railway Zone of Indian Railway. Railway Zone-wise details of all ongoing Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget) > Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year) > Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Kerala, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹950 crore per year from ₹372 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 155% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14. For financial year 2021-22, budget outlay of ₹871 crore has been provided for these works, further an additional amount of ₹985 crore has been provided. Thus total outlay for infrastructure and safety projects falling fully/partly in Kerala for financial year 2021-22 has been ₹1856 crore which is highest ever budget and 399% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

Progress of Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry clearance by forest department, cost sharing by State Government shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical Conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, etc. All these factors affect the completion time of project(s). However, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously and for early commissioning.
