

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.912
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024

PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS

912 DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are many Railway projects pending for more than five years in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof, Railway Division-wise;
- (b) whether Government has plans for the use of state of art surveillance and security for monitoring of important railway stations in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has initiated any new railway projects and the railway infrastructure works in the last five years, if so, the details thereof, Railway Division-wise; and
- (d) the total funds earmarked for the same and their current status?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 912 BY DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 09.02.2024 REGARDING PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS

(a): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Indian Railway's projects may span across various State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.23, 23 projects (09 new line, 03 Gauge conversion and 11 doubling) of total length 2,848 Km costing ₹35,580 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are in planning/approval/construction stage.

- (i) 9 New Line projects covering total length of 871 km at a cost of ₹14,682 crore.
- (ii) 3 Gauge Conversion projects covering total length of 748 km at a cost of ₹5,224 crore.
- (iii) 11 Doubling projects covering total length of 1,229 km at a cost of ₹15,674 crore.

In 2014-23, 1227 Km section (18 km New Line, 456 Km of Gauge Conversion and 753 km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu have been commissioned at an average rate of 136.33 Km per year.

The completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, 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 the project. With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

(b): In Southern and South Western Railways over Tamil Nadu jurisdiction, 37 important Railway Stations are covered under CCTV.

(c) & (d): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not Division-wise as the Indian Railway's projects may span across various divisions boundaries. Total 05 projects are falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu have been sanctioned during last five years (i.e. 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-23 and current Financial Year 2023-24) which are as follow:-

(₹ in crore)

S. No.	Name of Projects	Year of sanction	Total cost	Outlay of 2023-24
1	Morappur-Dharmapuri (36 Km)	2019-20	358.95	100
2	Rameswaram-Dhanushkodi new line (Umbrella Work) (17 Km)	2022-23	733.91	385.9
3	Doubling of Chennai Beach- Chennai Egmore (4 Km)	2022-23	274.2	96.7
4	Doubling of Baiyapannahalli – Hosur (48 Km)	2019-20	498.73	100
5	3rd & 4th line connectivity to Road 1 and 2 of Arakkonam yard of Southern Railway (6 Km)	2022-23	74.05	0.001

Railway projects in Tamil Nadu are covered by Southern Railway (SR), South Central Railway (SCR) and South Western Railway (SWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zone-wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Budget allocation for infrastructure and safety projects falling fully/ partly in the State of Tamil Nadu has been enhanced to highest at ₹6,080 crore this year which is nearly seven times of the budget allocation of ₹922 crore in 2013-14. Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹879 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹6,080 crore	nearly 7 times

Though fund allocation has increased manifold but pace of execution of project is dependent on expeditious land acquisition. Railway acquires the land through State Government. State Government assesses the compensation amount and advises to Railway. On receipt of demand from State Government, Railway deposits compensation amount with concerned District Land acquisition Authority.

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is held up due to delay in land acquisition. Details of land acquisition in Tamil Nadu is as under:-

Scope of land acquisition	Land acquired	Land acquisition balance
1832 Ha	624 Ha	1208 Ha

Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects. Support of the Government of Tamil Nadu is needed to expedite the land acquisition.
