

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 741
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025

SONNAGAR-ANDAL AND ANDAL-DANKUNI MULTITRACKING PROJECTS

741. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the Sonnagar-Andal multitracking project, including the land acquisition status, executing agencies involved, and the anticipated timeline for completion;
- (b) whether the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for multitracking of the Andar-Dankuni section has been submitted to the Railway Board, if not, the reasons for the delay;
- (c) whether any formal approval has been accorded by the Railway Board to the Andar-Dankuni multitracking project, if not, the current status of the proposal; and
- (d) the extent of land already acquired for the Andar-Dankuni section, and whether any bottlenecks remain for initiating the work?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) : Sonnagar-Andal multitracking (375 Km) project has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.12,334 crore. Out of Total 977.6 Ha. of land required for the project more than 95% of land has been acquired. Execution of the project has been taken up on available land.

Route between Andar and Dankuni (160 Km) is a 4 Line section except section between Chandanpur & Shaktigarh (43 Km) which is a 3 Line section. The work for construction of 4th line on this section has also been sanctioned recently at a cost Rs. 700 crore.

Further, Final Location Survey for construction of 5th & 6th Line between Andar and Shaktigarh (91 Km) on Andar-Dankuni route has been sanctioned for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).

Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands

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raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

The Sanctioning of the project requires consultation with various stake-holders including State Governments and necessary approvals viz. appraisal of NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance etc.

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of State share by the State Government in cost sharing projects, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project/s site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, etc and all these factors affect the completion time of the project/s. With above constraints, every effort is being made to complete these projects at the earliest.
