

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1551
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2026

TUNNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN RAPURU TUNNEL IN NELLORE

1551 SHRI MASTHAN RAO YADAV BEEDHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Tunnel Management System has been operationalised nationally, including for the Rapuru Tunnel in Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the tunnel projects proposed, sanctioned, completed and operationalised in the last five years, State/district/year-wise, particularly in Nellore and Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the tunnels identified for rehabilitation, structural strengthening or safety upgrades, especially the Rapuru tunnel and others in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) funds allocated, sanctioned, released and utilised for tunnel construction, safety and maintenance, State-wise, including Nellore/Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) the measures taken to strengthen tunnel safety nationally; and
- (f) whether any safety audit has been conducted and the key findings thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (f): There is a well-established system of inspection of Railway Tunnels on Indian Railway. All the tunnels are inspected twice a year by designated officials, a detailed inspection before the monsoon and once after the onset of monsoon.

Capacity enhancement of railway network has been taken up by Indian Railways in a big way during last 12 years. This includes construction of tunnels for providing Railway connectivity to remote and geographically challenging hilly areas. Due to thrust on Railway Infrastructure, about 499 km tunnels have been constructed in the past 12 years as against 125 km total tunnel length that existed before 2014.

The Tunnel Management System (TuMS) has been developed as a specialized application for systematic inspection, monitoring and maintenance of railway tunnels on Indian Railways. The application serves as a centralized digital platform for maintaining comprehensive digital tunnel inventory, recording inspection data, condition assessment, monitoring structural health, planning maintenance, and prioritising rehabilitation and strengthening works. The TuMS serves as a central

platform for prioritization, enabling timely planning of maintenance, rehabilitation, or strengthening measures of tunnels.

In Rapur village of Nellore District there are two tunnels having a length of 980 m and 6660m between Krishnapatnam station and Obulavaripalle station. These tunnels were constructed as part of freight connectivity line to the Krishnapatnam Port. This is owned by Krishnapatnam Railway Company Ltd (KRCL). The procedures as laid down in Tunnel Management System for inspection and monitoring are being followed by Krishnapatnam Railway Company Ltd. (KRCL).

Repair/strengthening/rehabilitation/rebuilding of Railway Tunnels is undertaken whenever so warranted by their physical condition as ascertained during these inspections. On the basis conditional assessment during the inspection the repair/rehabilitation/ strengthening of tunnels is undertaken. Presently about 77 nos of works costing Rs. 945 crores have been sanctioned for tunnels on Indian Railway.
