

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1605
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2017**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN KERALA

**1605. SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the various railway projects underway in the State of Kerala, zone-wise and project-wise;**
- (b) the number of projects which are behind schedule and the reasons therefor, project-wise;**
- (c) the cost overrun for each of the pending projects; and**
- (d) the measures that have been taken/are being taken by the Government to complete the projects within the stipulated time or extended time-frame?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(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. 1605 BY SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER AND PROF. K.V. THOMAS TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.12.2017 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN KERALA

(a) to (c): Details of ongoing projects included in Budget, falling partly or fully in the State of Kerala alongwith latest estimated cost, expenditure incurred thereon upto March, 2017 and outlay provided etc are as under:-

(₹ in Crore)

S. No.	Project	Zone (Railway)	Latest cost	Expenditure upto March, 2017	Outlay 2017-18	Status
	New line					
1.	Tirunavaya -Guruvayur (35 Km)	Southern	477	31.92	18	Government of Kerala has approved alignment in 2009 and Final Location Survey (FLS) for first 8 Km completed. Balance FLS is held up due to public protest.
2.	Angamali-Sabrimala (116 Km)	Southern	1566	218.45	213.59	On this project, track linking on Angamali-Kaladi section (7 Km) has been completed. Earthwork and bridge works have been taken up in Kaladi-Perumbavoor section (11 Km). Beyond Perumbavoor, alignment has been

						fixed and preparation of estimate & plans have been taken up.
	GAUGE CONVERSION					
1.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur & Tenkasi-Virudhunagar (357 Km)	Southern	1122	944.62	41.48	336 Km. has been commissioned. Remaining section i.e. New Ariyankavu-Edamann (21 Km) falling in Kerala area is in advanced stage of completion.
	DOUBLING					
1.	Ernakulam-Kumbalam (7.71 Km)	Southern	189.24	8.20	30	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, State Government was requested for free land and sharing 50% of construction cost of the project. However, State Government has not agreed to Railway's request.
2.	Kumbalam-Turavur (15.59 Km)	Southern	253	6.97	65	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, State

						Government was requested for free land and sharing 50% of construction cost of the project. However, State Government has not agreed to Railway's request.
3.	Ambalapuzha-Haripad (18.13 Km)	Southern	289	194.49	38.45	Earthwork, bridges & ballast supply works have been taken up. State Government has to expedite handing over of 0.39 hectare of land to Railways.
4.	Kuruppantara-Chingavanam (27 Km)	Southern	346	177.01	100	Kuruppantara-Ettumannur (8 Km) is in advance stage. State Government has to expedite handing over of 7.04 hectare of land to Railways.
5.	Chingavanam-Chengannur (27 Km)	Southern	343	307.43	33.63	Chengannur-Changanassery section (17 Km) commissioned. Work on balance section is in advance stage. State Government has to expedite handing over of 1.20 hectare of land to Railways.

6.	Thiruvananthapuram-Kanniyakumari (86.56 Km)	Southern	1431.90	2	50	Requisite clearances to take up work on this project have been obtained. Detailed Estimate sanctioned and land acquisition taken up.
7.	Turavur-Ambalapuzha (45.86 Km)	Southern	1000	0.48	30	Project has been deferred till the consent of State Government for cost sharing and providing free land is received.

Completion of projects depends on a number of factors such as acquisition of land, forestry and wildlife clearances, shifting of various services, construction of Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges by road maintenance departments, apart from availability of adequate funds. Many of these factors are beyond the control of the Ministry of Railways.

(d): To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to speed up the works like increased allocation of funds, funding through loan from Institutions like Life Insurance Corporation, execution of projects through Special Purpose Vehicles, etc. Besides these, to reduce delays on account of land acquisition, security issues and forestry clearances etc, meetings with State Officials at various levels are held from time to time. Field units have also been empowered with further delegation of powers and the contract conditions have been modified to bring efficiency in contract management.