

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2688
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2018**

NEW RAIL LINES IN KARNATAKA

2688. SHRI B.S.YEDIYURAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the surveys undertaken for new railway lines in the country, zone-wise including Karnataka during the last three years along with the present status thereof; and**
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to complete the ongoing surveys and remaining gauge conversion works?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) & (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2688 BY SHRI B.S.YEDIYURAPPA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.01.2018 REGARDING NEW RAIL LINES IN KARNATAKA

(a): Zone-wise details of surveys conducted for new lines during the last three years i.e. 2014-15, 2015-16 & 2016-17 for new line projects that includes State of Karnataka are as tabulated below:-

Zonal Railway	No. of new line surveys conducted during 2014-15, 2015-16 & 2016-17	No. of new line surveys conducted during 2017-18
Central	9	4
East Coast	11	4
East Central	4	0
Eastern	0	0
North Central	7	5
North Eastern	4	2
Northeast Frontier	7	0
Northern	27	15
North Western	16	5
South Central	10	6
South East Central	22	6
South Eastern	2	0
Southern	16	0
South Western	7	1
West Central	1	4
Western	10	0

12 new line works have been included in Pink Book subject to requisite approvals.

(b): Surveys require investigation of various alternatives in consultation with State Governments and forest department, to decide the most technically feasible alignment, interaction with State Government, trade

and industries for assessment of traffic projections, preparation of plans and drawings for calculation of costs etc. Since this is an extensive exercise, it is not possible to fix time lines for both completion of all these surveys and the lines being made functional.

Conversion of Narrow Gauge (NG) lines, wherever feasible, and of Meter Gauge (MG) lines into Broad Gauge (BG) have been taken up by Indian Railways, as a part of Uni-gauge policy in phases. Completion of projects depends on many factors such as land acquisition, forestry & wild life clearances, shifting of services, construction of road over and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies etc. apart from availability of funds depending on overall availability of funds and relative priority of the route. As many of these factors are not within the control of Railways, no time limit has been fixed for conversion of all NG and MG lines into BG. Moreover, Gauge Conversion works are not taken up on the routes having dead ends and routes having heritage status. However, it is always endeavour of Ministry of Railways to hasten the Gauge Conversion works. For early completion of surveys, further delegation of powers to Zonal Railways for finalizing tenders to survey alongwith decision to go for outsourcing for all surveys have also been done.
