

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2709
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2018**

HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK

**2709. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently initiated the process of drawing up a blueprint to interconnect the four metros-Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata with high speed network of trains running at 160 kmph;**
- (b) if so, the details of the project and the likely expenditure involved;**
- (c) whether the Railway tracks would be upgraded to interconnect the four metros with high speed network of trains; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Principal routes of the railways connecting four metros-Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata constitute Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) and diagonals routes namely Delhi – Mumbai, Delhi –

Howrah, Howrah- Chennai, Chennai – Mumbai, Delhi – Chennai and Howrah – Mumbai.

These principal six Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) and diagonals routes carry about 58% of freight traffic and 52% of coaching traffic with a share of approximately only 16% of the rail network.

Two speed raising projects for trains running at 160 kmph on Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Howrah routes have been included in Pink Book 2017-18. However, the works for other four Golden Quadrilateral (GQ)/Diagonal routes are yet to be processed.

The details of the speed raising projects to 160 kmph on Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Howrah routes are as under:-

- New Delhi-Mumbai Route (including Vadodara-Ahmedabad), 1483 Route km at an estimated cost of ₹ 11,189 crore.**
- New Delhi-Howrah route (including Kanpur-Lucknow), 1525 Route kms at an estimated cost of ₹ 6974 crore.**
- No expenditure so far has been incurred under these projects.**
- Scope of Work: It involves strengthening of track structure, removal of all level crossings, through fencing, Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Mobile Radio Communication System, augmentation of power supply, automated and instrumented diagnostics for rolling stock etc.**
