

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5994
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2018**

SURVEY OF RAILWAY PROJECTS IN KERALA

5994. SHRI M.B. RAJESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the present status of ongoing railway projects including survey of projects in Kerala, project-wise;**
- (b) the details of funds allocated/spent thereon, project-wise;**
- (c) the time-frame set for completion of these projects; and**
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard?**

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. 5994 BY SHRI M.B. RAJESH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.04.2018 REGARDING SURVEY OF 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 for 2017-18 and status of projects including survey involved thereon are as under:-

(₹ in Crore)

S. No.	Project	Latest Estimated cost	Expenditure upto March, 2017	Outlay 2017-18	Status
	NEW LINE				
1.	Tirunavaya-Guruvayur (35 Km)	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)	2815	218.45	213.59	On this project, work on Angamali-Kaladi section (7 Km) is in advance stage which, however is stuck for want of 0.6 hectare land. For balance length, land acquisition has delayed due to protest by local people against fixing of alignment of the project in Kottayam District. In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal increase in land cost, Government of Kerala has been requested for their consent to share 50% cost of the project.

	GAUGE CONVERSION				
1.	Quilon- Tirunelveli- Tiruchendur &Tenkasi- Virudhunagar (357 Km)	1122	1060.45	41.48	336 Km. has been commissioned. Remaining section i.e. New Ariyankavu- Edamann (21 Km) falling in Kerala area is in advance stage of completion.
	DOUBLING				
1	Ernakulam- Kumbalam (7.71 Km)	189	8.20	30	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, Government of Kerala 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)	253	6.97	65	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, Government of Kerala 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)	289	194.49	38.45	Earthwork, bridges & ballast supply works have been taken up.
4.	Kuruppantara -Chingavanam (27 Km)	457	177.01	100	Kuruppantara-Ettumannur (8 Km) is in advance stage. State Government has to expedite handing over of 7.02 hectare of land to Railways.

5.	Chingavanam-Chengannur (27 Km)	436	307.43	33.63	Chengannur-Changanassery section (17 Km) commissioned. Work on balance section is in advance stage.
6.	Thiruvananthapuram-Kanniyakumari (86.50 Km)	1432	2	50	Requisite clearances to take up work on this project have been obtained in 2017. Detailed Estimate sanctioned and land acquisition taken up.
7.	Turavur-Ambalapuzha (50 Km)	829	0.48	30	Project has been deferred till the consent of State Government for cost sharing and providing free land is received.

Besides above, Shoranur-Ernakulam 3rd line project (107 Km) has been included in the Budget 2018-19 at a cost of ₹ 1518 crore.

Execution/completion of projects depends on a number of factors such as statutory clearances, acquisition of land, shifting of various utility services etc. Therefore, it is not feasible to give fixed time lines for completion of the project.

(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.