

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 656
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019**

DARJEELING HIMALAYAN AND NILGIRI MOUNTAIN RAILWAYS

656. SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Railways along with UNESCO has proposed to develop and conserve the Darjeeling Himalayan and Nilgiri Mountain Railways;**
- (b) if so, the details of estimated cost of the project and the special features likely to be added therein along with and the expected rise in tourism; and**
- (c) the time by which the above projects are likely to be completed?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

(a) & (b): Indian Railways has entered into agreement with UNESCO in January, 2017 to develop a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) for conservation of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) as a World Heritage Site which includes creation of a heritage conservation unit and establishment of a buffer zone along the length of the Railway Line and the station with a completion period of two years. The estimated cost of the project is around 5,33,332 USD.

There is no proposal to develop Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) for Nilgiri Mountain Railway with UNESCO.

(c): As requested by UNESCO, the completion period of the project has been extended up to September, 2019.
