

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1029
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

ONGOING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

1029. DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the present status of ongoing railway projects in the State of Tamil Nadu during the last five years and the details of the railway projects announced in the last five years Union Budget for the State of Tamil Nadu that have not been taken up for execution so far, project-wise, along with the reasons therefor;**
- (b) the details of the funds allocated/spent along with the funds lying unspent for the said projects during the last three years, project-wise, along with the reasons for unspent funds;**
- (c) the reasons for the delay in timely completion of these projects; and**
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and to avoid further escalation of cost of these projects?**

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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. 1029 BY SHRI DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.02.2023 REGARDING ONGOING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

(a) to (d): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Indian Railways' projects may span across various State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2022, 24 Railways infrastructures projects (09 new line, 04 Gauge conversion and 11 doubling) of total length 2,944 Km, costing ₹30,692 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu including those announced in last five years are in different stages of planning/sanctioning/ execution, out of which 804 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,705 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. These include:-

- 09 New Line Projects of total length 871 Km, costing ₹10,724 crore, out of which 18 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹685 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.**
- 04 Gauge Conversion Projects of total length 839 Km, costing ₹5,778 crore, out of which 622 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,179 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.**
- 11 Doubling Projects of total length 1,234 Km, costing ₹14,190 crore, out of which 164 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,841 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.**

Total 10 projects (01 new line and 09 doubling) of total length 908 Km falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu has been announced/included in the Budget during last five years i.e. 2017-18 to 2021-22 and current Financial Year i.e. 2022-23.

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are covered under Southern Railway (SR), South Central Railway (SCR) and South Western Railway (SWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zone-wise and Year-wise details of all Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget) > Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year) > Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation for infrastructure and safety work Projects and commensurate commissioning of Projects in Indian Railways.

The Average Annual Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu during 2014-19 increased to ₹1,979 crore per year from ₹879 crore per year during 2009 - 14 (125% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). The Annual Budget allocation on these projects increased to ₹2,410 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (174% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14), ₹2,812 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (220% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14) and ₹3,730 crore for Financial year 2021-22(324% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest-ever budget outlay of ₹3,865 crore has been provided for these works, which is 340% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

During 2014-22, 1,066 Km sections (18 Km New line, 404 Km Gauge conversion and 644 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu has been commissioned at an average rate 133.25 km per year.

The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project(s) site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project(s). With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti Directorate in Ministry of Railways & Gati Shakti Units in divisions (ii) prioritisation of projects (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iv) delegation of powers at field level (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (vi) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.