

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3482
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023**

SURVEY OF NEW BROAD GAUGE LINE

3482. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Reconnaissance Engineering-cum- Traffic Survey for a new Broad Gauge (BG) line from Erode (Ingur) to Palani via Dharapuram was ordered and budget amount allotted in Railway Budget 2005-06;**
- (b) if so, the reasons why the survey was not continued and further works not carried out;**
- (c) whether any survey was done after 10 years when the project was reported to be unremunerative in 2007;**
- (d) whether the Railways is likely to order for a survey of new BG line Erode-Palani in view of the fast development en-route and high tourism potential in Palani temple, Dharapuram, Kangeyam and Chennimalai;**
- (e) whether there is likely to be a re-alignment in the line since many solar projects have come enroute, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3482 BY SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING SURVEY OF NEW BROAD GAUGE LINE

(a) to (d): Erode - Palani new line project was sanctioned in the Budget 2008-09. Cost of project is ₹603.23 crore. Government of Tamil Nadu was requested to provide land free of cost and share 50% balance cost of the project. However, Government of Tamil Nadu has shown their inability to provide land free of cost and share 50% cost of the project. No further updating survey has been conducted for Erode - Palani new line project since last 10 years.

Railway projects in Tamil Nadu are covered by Southern Railway (SR), South Central Railway (SCR) and South Western Railway (SWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zone-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 budget allotment and commensurate commissioning of infrastructure projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu, during 2014-19 has been enhanced 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 for 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), ₹3,730 crore in Financial year 2021-22 (324% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14) and ₹3,865 crore for Financial Year 2022-23 (340% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). For financial year 2023-24, highest ever budget outlay of ₹6,080 crore has been proposed for these works, which is 592% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

During 2014-22, 1,066 Km sections (18 Km of 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 of 133.25 Km per year.

(e) and (f): There is no land based solar plant as of now in Southern Railway. So, there is no re-alignment in the line on this account.
