### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 625 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2023

#### **OPERATIONALISATION OF SOUTH COAST RAILWAY ZONE**

#### 625. SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to formally commence the operationalisation of the South Coast Railway Zone;
- (b) the date on which the construction of a zonal headquarters at Visakhapatnam had started, the set completion date and the proposed extension of days for the completion of its construction and start of its working;
- (c) the details regarding the funds for the aforementioned purposes that have been disbursed and utilised;
- (d) whether the Government has a plan to construct a railway line between Visakhapatnam junction and Gopalapatnam, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details regarding the total area of land that has been acquired for the purpose of building the zonal headquarters at Visakhapatnam, including the issues that have come up during the acquisition of the same?

#### **ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.625 BY SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.12.2023 REGARDING OPERATIONALISATION OF SOUTH COAST RAILWAY ZONE

(a) to (e): Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the new South Coast Railway Zone (SCoR) has been prepared. The work of "Setting up of South Coast Railways' Zone HQ" has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 106.89 Crore. An outlay of Rs. 10 Crore has been provided for this work in 2023-24. East Coast Railway has been directed to take up suitable work for preliminary activities like land survey, preparation of complete layout plan of SCoR/Headquarter office complex, residential colony and other construction pre-requisites.

One of the options proposed in the Detailed Project Report for setting up of SCoR zone headquarter is in 52.2 Acre land at Mudasarlova which is to be handed over by Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC)/Andhra Pradesh Government in lieu of railway land taken for Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) project. Government of Andhra Pradesh is yet to identify suitable 52.2 Acre land at Mudasarlova, Vishakhapatnam and hand it over to Railway.

There is existing double line connectivity between Visakhapatnam junction & Gopalapatnam. Further, work has been sanctioned for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> lines between Visakhapatnam junction & Gopalapatnam (15.31 km) in April, 2023 at a cost of Rs. 159.47 Crore.

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