

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 702
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024**

PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS

702. SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R.:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the pending railway projects in Tamil Nadu;**
- (b) the sanctioned cost and the funds released so far for these pending railway projects;**
- (c) the estimated timeline for completion of these pending railway projects;**
- (d) whether the Railways has received proposals for any railway project from the Tamil Nadu Government; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Railways in this regard?**

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 702 BY SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R. TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2024 REGARDING PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS

(a) to (e): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Indian Railway's projects may span across various State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.23, 23 projects (09 new line, 03 Gauge conversion and 11 doubling) of total length 2,848 Km costing ₹35,580 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are in planning/approval/construction stage.

- (i) 9 New Line projects covering total length of 871 km at a cost of ₹14,682 crore.**
- (ii) 3 Gauge Conversion projects covering total length of 748 km at a cost of ₹5,224 crore.**
- (iii) 11 Doubling projects covering total length of 1,229 km at a cost of ₹15,674 crore.**

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 Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Budget allocation for infrastructure and safety projects falling fully/ partly in the State of Tamil Nadu has been enhanced to highest at ₹6,080 crore this year which is nearly seven times of the budget allocation of ₹922 crore in 2013-14.

Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹879 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹6,080 crore	nearly 7 times

Though fund allocation has increased manifold but pace of execution of project is dependent on expeditious land acquisition. Railway acquires the land through State Government. State Government assesses the compensation amount and advises to Railway. On receipt of demand from State Government, Railway deposits compensation amount with concerned District Land acquisition Authority. Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is held up due to delay in land acquisition and only about 624 Ha land has been acquired out of total requirement of about 1832 Ha. Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects. Support of the Government of Tamil Nadu is needed to expedite the land acquisition.

The completion of any Railway project 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 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. With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

Railway projects are taken up Zonal Railway-wise on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds. As receipt of such Proposals /suggestions is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such requests is not maintained.

Total 20 surveys (04 New line and 16 doubling) of total length 1,754 Km falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu have been sanctioned during last three years (i.e. 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-23 and current Financial Year 2023-24).
