GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 769 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

SILVER LINE PROJECT

769. SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Southern Railway has expressed its inability to spare railway land for Silver Line project of Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (K-Rail);
- (b) whether it is also true that the proposed alignment by K-Rail was finalised without prior consultation with the Railways;
- (c) whether according to Southern Railway, the proposed alignment is quite close to the railway infrastructure and train operations would be interrupted by the dismantling and reconstruction of railway assets for the proposed project of the K-Rail, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the K-Rail has not considered the future development needs of Railways in Kerala, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Silver Line track of the project of K-Rail is proposed as a standard gauge with a designed speed of 200 kmph, which is not in conformity with that of the existing railway line, if so, the details in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): Silver Line Semi High Speed Rail from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod in Kerala has been identified by Kerala Rail Development

Corporation Limited (KRDCL), a Joint Venture company of State Government of Kerala (51%) and Ministry of Railways (49%) for development. After survey, KRDCL has submitted Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Semi High Speed Rail Project to the Ministry of Railways for approval. Sufficient details for technical feasibility are not available in the DPR. Therefore, KRDCL has been advised to provide detailed technical documents such as alignment plan, details of land, crossings over existing railway network, etc. to further, examine the feasibility of project. Southern Railway has been advised to discuss various issues related to the project with KRDCL and submit their comments to Ministry of Railways for further examination. The project is not yet sanctioned.
