

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 786
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024**

RAILWAY CONNECTIVITY TO CITIES

786. DR. M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey in the state of Kerala to provide railway Connectivity to the cities with a population of more than fifty thousand that do not have railway connectivity;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide railway connectivity in these cities?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 786 BY DR. M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2024 REGARDING RAILWAY CONNECTIVITY TO CITIES

(a) to (c): The Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise/Region-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. Railway Infrastructure Projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

In last 3 years (2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and current Financial Years 2023-24), 3 surveys of length 410 km (New line & Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala have been sanctioned.

As on 01.04.2023, 07 projects (2 new lines and 05 Doubling) of 409 km length, costing ₹9,437 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are in planning/approval/construction stage. An expenditure of ₹ 2,286 crore has been incurred upto March 2023. These include:-

- 02 New Line Projects of total length 146 km at a cost of ₹2,953 crore and an expenditure of ₹311 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.**

- **05 Doubling Projects of total length 263 km at a cost of ₹6,483 crore and an expenditure of ₹1,975 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.**

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 Kerala is held up due to delay in land acquisition and only about 25.45 Ha land has been acquired out of total requirement of about 126.91 Ha.

Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects. Support of the Government of Kerala is needed to expedite the land acquisition.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects in State of Kerala. Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in the State of Kerala is as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹372 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹2,033 crore	5.5 times

Commissioning of Infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in State of Kerala is as under:-

Period	Total Track Commissioned	Average Track Commissioned	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	53 Km	10.6 Km/Year	-
2014-23	125 Km	13.89 Km/Year	1.3 times
