

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.904
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024**

VIJAYAWADA – GUDUR PROJECT

904. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the reasons that in spite of approving Vijayawada –Gudur project in April, 2015 and its anticipated completion in December, 2023, the project is yet to be completed;**
- (b) whether it is true there is huge cost overrun of the project and if so, the details of original cost and the final anticipated cost; and**
- (c) the anticipated date of completion of the above project?**

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.904 BY SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2024 REGARDING VIJAYAWADA-GUDUR PROJECT

(a) to (c): Vijaywada- Gudur 3rd line (287 Km) work was approved in 2016-17 for a length of 287 Km. Total 184 km third line has been commissioned and opened for traffic. Another 50 km is planned for commissioning by the end of the current financial year. The balance works has been taken up. There is only a general cost escalation on the project against labour, material and machinery.

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 Andhra Pradesh is held up due to delay in land acquisition and only about 2023 Hectare land has been acquired out of total requirement of about 4373 Hectare. Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects. Support of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is needed to expedite the land acquisition.

In the ongoing cost sharing projects in Andhra Pradesh, out of total share of 7959 crore, only 870 crore has been deposited by Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Completion/Execution of Railway project/s depends on various factors like land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials

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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/s site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. and all these factors affect the execution and completion time of the project/s.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the State of Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Year	Budget outlay	Increase w.r.t. average annual allocation during 2009-14
2009-2014	₹886 cr/year	-
2023-2024	₹8406 cr	More than 9 times

Commissioning of infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the state of Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Period	Total Length Commissioned	Average Length Commissioned	change w.r.t. average commissioning during 2009-14
2009-14	363 km	72.6 km/Year	-
2014-23	1,266 km	140.67 km/Year	Approx 2 times