

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2740
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2019**

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS

†2740. SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ambitious projects of the Railways for capacity expansion by way of gauge conversion and doubling of railway lines has come to a standstill for non-receipt of environmental clearance;**
- (b) if so, the location/project-wise details thereof;**
- (c) whether the revenue loss and the occurrence of delay has been assessed;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Ministry of Environment has been urged by the Railways to speed up the process of granting approval in a time-bound manner on a fast-track mode;**
- (f) if so, the reaction thereto; and**
- (g) the other measures taken to obtain environmental clearance to the said projects?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2740 BY SHRI RAVI KISHAN AND SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.12.2019 REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS

(a), (b) and (g): Railway projects do not require environmental clearance. However, forestry/wild life clearances are required, wherever the diversion of forest land is involved. Taking permission from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is an integral part of project execution.

Presently, Indian Railways have taken up 18 doubling and 05 gauge conversion projects with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and concerned State Governments for obtaining forestry/wild-life clearance/tree cutting permission. List of projects for which forestry/wild-life clearance/tree cutting permission has been taken up is appended.

In this regard, regular meetings with the officials of MoEF&CC and State Governments are being held to expedite forestry/wild-life clearance/tree cutting permission for Railway Projects, so that, Railway Projects are completed expeditiously.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): Yes, Sir.

(f): MoEF&CC has issued instruction to zonal units, advising them that, if the land is Railway land (i.e. ownership of the land vests with Railways) and which is under 'non-forest use' before 25th October 1980, then, provisions of Forest Conservation Act would not apply.

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a), (b) AND (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2740 BY SHRI RAVI KISHAN AND SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.12.2019 REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS

(a), (b) and (g): List of projects for which forestry/wild-life clearances/tree cutting permission is being obtained from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is as under:-

SN	Plan Head	Name of Projects
1	Doubling	Jagdalpur - Kirandul Doubling
2	Doubling	Tilak Bridge-AnandVihar 3rd & 4th Line
3	Doubling	New Bongaigaon - Golpara - Kamakhya Doubling project
4	Doubling	Hospet- Tinaighat-Vasco Railway doubling project
5	Doubling	Katni-Singrauli Doubling
6	Doubling	Bondamunda – Ranchi Doubling
7	Doubling	Patratu- Sonnagar - 3rd line
8	Doubling	6th Line Project from Mumbai Central-Borivali
9	Doubling	Kalyan-Kasara 3rd line
10	Doubling	Nagpur-Itarsi 3rd line
11	Doubling	Kazipet-Ballarshah 3rd line projevt
12	Doubling	Banspani-Daitari-Tomka-Jakhapura
13	Doubling	Bhadrak - Nirgundi 3rd line
14	Doubling	Salegaon-Budhapank 3rd & 4th Line
15	Doubling	Jarapada - Budhapank 3rd & 4th line
16	Doubling	Viziyanagaram - Titilagarh 3rd line
17	Doubling	Eranial - Nagarcovil
18	Doubling	Mathura - Palwal 4th line work
19	Gauge conversion	Gauge conversion with Railway Electrification between Khijadiya-Visavadar
20	Gauge conversion	Gauge conversionwith Railway Electrification between Veraval-Talala-Visavadar
21	Gauge conversion	Gauge conversionwith Railway Electrification between Junagadh-Visavadar
22	Gauge conversion	Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola Gauge Conversion Project
23	Gauge conversion	Lucknow Pilibhit via Sitapur, Lakhimpur, Gauge conversion