

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2550
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2021**

SOUTH COAST RAILWAY ZONE

2550. SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken for making South Coast Railway Zone operational after announcement of its creation;**
- (b) the time by when the Government is likely to make the said zone fully operational;**
- (c) the steps taken to boost connectivity and to enable faster freight transport in the announced South Coast Railway Zone;**
- (d) whether the Government has estimated the yearly revenue that could be accrued through the announced zone, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government is planning to establish a Railway Recruitment Board in the announced zone, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER
AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(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.2550 BY SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10.03.2021 REGARDING SOUTH COAST RAILWAY ZONE

(a): An Officer on Special Duty/South Coast Railway (OSD/SCoR) was posted to undertake planning and preparatory work for formation of New Zone. He has submitted the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for setting up of new SCoR Zone. In the meantime, an Umbrella work titled "Creation of new South Coast Railway Zone and new Rayagada Division in East Coast Railway" has been included in Budget 2020-21 at an estimated cost of ₹170 Cr.

(b): As the DPR is still under examination, time-frame cannot be fixed for operationalisation of the new Zone.

(c): South Coast Railway Zone has not been operationalised yet. However, introduction of trains to boost connectivity is an ongoing process in Indian Railways subject to traffic jurisdiction, operational feasibility and availability of resources etc. As regards faster freight transport, various measures have been taken all over Indian Railways such as

- (i) Increasing the axle load for carrying additional traffic per wagon**
- (ii) Increase in length of freight trains**
- (iii) Deployment of higher capacity locomotives & higher capacity wagons.**
- (iv) Improving the speed of freight trains from 23.40 kmph in 2019-20 (upto December) to 42.50 kmph in the current year (upto December).**
- (v) Improvement in maintenance practices of wagon and locomotives resulting in increased availability of rolling stock for traffic use.**
- (vi) Improvement in track and signaling to carry higher volume of traffic.**
- (vii) Use of extensive computerization in freight operations to improve monitoring and utilization of assets.**
- (viii) Training staff and officers to adopt the new technology and management practices.**

(d): No, Sir.

(e): No, Sir. Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) have been established based on territorial jurisdiction of the Indian Railways and not on the basis of States, Zones and Regions.
