

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4555
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022**

NEW RAILWAY LINES IN TAMIL NADU

**4555. SHRI M. SELVARAJ:
DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is on the process of laying of new railway lines, gauge conversion, doubling of railway lines, electrification and signaling in Indian Railways across the country including Tamil Nadu during the last three years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the total number of new railway lines, gauge conversion, doubling of railway lines, electrification and signaling in new railway lines that have been undertaken/under process completed in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;**
- (d) whether the Railways has faced any impediments and hardships while implementing the above schemes in Tamil Nadu; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to overcome these hardships?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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. 4555 BY SHRI M. SELVARAJ AND DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 30.03.2022 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY LINES IN TAMIL NADU

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State wise as the Railways' projects may span across various state boundaries.

INDIAN RAILWAYS

As on 01.04.2021 across Indian Railways including Tamil Nadu, 484 Railway projects (187 New Line, 46 gauge Conversion and 251 Doubling) of 51,165 Km length, costing approx. ₹7.53 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution, out of which, 10,638 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.14 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2021.

The status of commissioning of New lines/Gauge Conversion/Doubling projects across Indian Railways including Tamil Nadu during the last three years and current is summarized below:-

Plan Head	2018-19 (Km)	2019-20 (Km)	2020-21 (Km)	2021-22 (upto Feb'2022) (Km)
New Lines	480	360	286	148
Gauge Conversion	597	408	470	358
Doubling	1519	1458	1614	1493
Total	2596	2226	2370	1999

At present, 97 Railway Electrification projects across Indian Railways including Tamil Nadu of 18,245 Route Km costing ₹ 23,288 Crore are in different stages of planning/ execution.

The status of Electrification projects during the last three years and current year across Indian Railways including Tamil Nadu is summarised below:-

Year-wise Electrification			
2018-19 (Route Km)	2019-20 (Route Km)	2020-21 (Route Km)	2021-22 (upto Feb'22) (Route Km)
5276	4378	6015	3224

Likewise, the status of Modernisation of Signalling System across Indian Railways including Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the current year is summarised below:-

SN	Items	Year- wise Modernisation			
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (Upto Feb'22)
1	Electronic Interlocking Station (Numbers)	393	417	355	364
2	Block Proving by Axle Counter (Block Sections).	400	375	240	231

SN	Items	Year- wise Modernisation			
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (Upto Feb'22)
3	Level Crossing Gate interlocking (Numbers)	413	108	190	209
4	Intermediate Block Signaling (Numbers)	49	40	60	55
5	Automatic Signaling	147	279	200	178

Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways>Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) >Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year)> Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

TAMIL NADU

(c): Tamil Nadu is covered by Southern Railway (SR), South Western Railway (SWR) and South Central Railway (SCR) zone of Indian Railways.

As on 01.04.21, 25 projects (09 new line, 4 Gauge conversion and 12 doubling) of total length 3,077 Km costing ₹28,307 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are under different stages of planning/approval/execution. These include:-

- **9 New Line Projects of total length of 871 km at a cost of ₹7,910 crore. An expenditure of ₹575 crore has been incurred upto March 2021.**
- **4 Gauge Conversion Project of total length of 839 km at a cost of ₹5,838 crore, out of which 604 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹2,972 crore has been incurred upto March 2021.**
- **12 Doubling Projects of total length of 1,367 km at a cost of ₹14,559 crore, out of which 246 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,299 crore has been incurred upto March 2021.**

During 2014-21, 996 km sections (404 km of Gauge Conversion and 592 km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu have been commissioned at an average rate 142.29 km per year.

Out of 3864 Broad Gauge Route Km, 3064 Route km has been electrified and Electrification works on the balance Broad Gauge routes have been taken up. Presently, 7 Railway electrification projects of 1,169 Km Route length costing ₹1,595 crore falling fully/partly in Tamil Nadu are under execution.

The status of electrification works in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and current year is summarized below:-

Year-wise Electrification (in Tamil Nadu)			
2018-19 (Route Km)	2019-20 (Route Km)	2020-21 (Route Km)	2021-22 (upto Feb'22) (Route Km)
196	167	263	404

Likewise, 36 Signaling projects of approx. cost of ₹1,315 Crore are under various stages of execution in Tamil Nadu.

There has been substantial increase in budget allocation since 2014. Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Tamil Nadu, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹1,979 crore per year from ₹879 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 125% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14. For Financial Year 2019-20 budget allocation of ₹2410 crore (174% more than average annual allocation of 2009-14) and for Financial Year 2020-21, budget outlay of ₹2812 crore (220% more than average annual budget allocation of 2009-14) has been provided for these works. For Financial Year 2021-22, highest ever budget outlay of ₹3730 crore (original BE ₹2,972 crore and additional outlay ₹758 Crore has been provided for these works, which is 324% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

(d) & (e): The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by

State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of projects, 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 completion time and cost of the project(s). However, Railways is making all the efforts for expeditious completion of projects.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) prioritisation of projects (ii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iii) delegation of powers at field level (iv) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (v) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.
