GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1696
TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 05, 2024

CHENNAI METRO RAIL PROJECT

NO. 1696. SHRI KARTI P CHIDAMBARAM:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the Chennai Metro expansion project along with the new phases like Corridor 5 and 6 along with the expected timelines for completion of the same;
(b) whether the Government is considering the extension of metro services to other major cities in Tamil Nadu such as Trichy, Coimbatore and Madurai;
(c) if so, the timeline fixed for the same; and
(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the sustainability and environmental standards by these metro rail projects in Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)

(a) Chennai Metro Rail Project Phase II, for a total length of 118.9 km, comprising three corridors, viz., (i) Corridor 3 - Madhavaram to SIPCOT (45.8 km); (ii) Corridor 4 - Light House to Poonnamallee Bypass (26.1 km)., and (iii) Corridor 5 - Madhavaram to Sholinganallur (47.0 km) has been sanctioned by Central Government at the cost of Rs. 63,246 crores. Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL), which is implementing agency for Chennai Metro Phase-2 project has informed current physical progress of project as 38.64% and date of completion as December 2027.

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(b) & (c) Government of Tamil Nadu has submitted Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of Coimbatore and Madurai without Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) and Alternative Analysis Report (AAR). As per Metro Rail Policy 2017, CMP and AAR is a mandatory prerequisite for appraisal of metro project. No proposal has been received from Government of Tamil Nadu for Trichy metro rail project.

(d) CMRL, the implementing agency, has informed that the following steps are being undertaken by them to ensure sustainability of metro rail projects and environmental standards in Tamil Nadu's metro rail projects:

- **Environmental Assessments: Comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Environmental Management Plans(EMPs) are developed to mitigate risks and manage air, water, and biodiversity impacts.**
- **Energy Efficiency: Solar panels, LED lighting, and energy-efficient systems are integrated, along with green-certified buildings.**
- **Sustainable Construction: Precast technology and recycled materials reduce waste and the carbon footprint.**
- **Climate Resilience: Flood-resistant infrastructure, stormwater drainage systems, and elevated designs ensure adaptability to extreme weather.**
- **Noise and Vibration Control: Barriers, dampers, and resilient rail pads are implemented to minimize disturbances, especially in sensitive zones.**
- **Biodiversity Conservation: Trees are replanted at a 1:12 ratio, focusing on native species, with green buffers created.**
- **Multimodal Integration: Seamless connections with buses, rail, and non-motorized transport reduce vehicular emissions.**
- **Water Management: STPs, water recycling, and rainwater harvesting systems are adopted for efficient water use.**
- **Solar Panel Regenerative energy: This involves generating renewable energy through the installation of rooftop, ground-mounted, and parking area solar plants across various premises, including Metro Rail depots, elevated and underground stations.The efforts of CMRL has resulted in positive impact not only on reduction of carbon footprints but also realizing tangible financial savings. The continuing expansion in this field will amplify solar energy generation and achieve energy independence and sustainability.**

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