GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2712 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024

SURVEY FOR KOVVUR TO BHADRACHALAM RAILWAY LINE

2712 DR. D. PURANDESWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the pending survey for the proposed railway line between Kovvur to Bhadrachalam;
- (b) the reasons for the delay in the survey for the said railway line and the steps taken by the Government to expedite it;
- (c) whether the funds have been allocated for the survey and if so, the amount and utilization status of such funds;
- (d) the estimated timeline for the completion of the said survey and subsequent steps for approval and construction of the said railway line; and
- (e) whether the Government plans to prioritize this project in the current financial year, considering the potential benefits for connectivity and local development and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) Bhadrachalam Kovvur (119 Km) New Line project was sanctioned on 50% cost sharing basis with Government of Andhra Pradesh at an anticipated cost of Rs.2155 crore. Bhadrachalam-Satupalli (56.25 km) new line project has already been completed in May 2022.

The completion of any Railway project 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.

Various steps taken by the Government for speedy approval and implementation of Railway projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (ii) prioritisation of projects (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iv) delegation of powers at field level (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (vi) 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. This has led to substantial increase in rate of commissioning since 2014.
