

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4348
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025**

DELAY IN RAILWAY PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

4348. SMT. KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that multiple railway projects in Tamil Nadu, including track doubling, electrification and new railway lines have faced significant delays;**
- (b) if so, the details regarding the status of railway projects in Tamil Nadu during the last ten years;**
- (c) the detail of the reasons for the delays in completing the projects despite repeated representations from the Tamil Nadu Government; and**
- (d) the expected timeline for completing key pending projects such as the Madurai-Thoothukkudi doubling project?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is held up due to delay in land

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acquisition. Status of land acquisition in Tamil Nadu is as under:

Total Land required for Projects in Tamil Nadu	4288 Ha
Land Acquired	991 Ha (23%)
Balance Land to be acquired	3297 Ha (77%)

Support of the Government of Tamil Nadu is needed to expedite the land acquisition.

Details of some major projects which are delayed due to land acquisition are as under:-

SN	Name of the project	Total land required (in Ha)	Land acquired (in Ha)	Balance Land to be acquired (in Ha)
1.	Tindivanam–Tiruvannamalai new line (71 km)	273	33	240
2.	Attiputtu – Puttur New Line (88 km)	189	0	189
3.	Morappur – Dharmapuri (36 km)	93	0	93
4.	Mannargudi-Pattukkottai (41 km)	152	0	152
5.	Thanjavur-Pattukottai (52 km)	196	0	196

Government of India is geared up to execute projects, however success depends upon the support of Government of Tamil Nadu.

Further, Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity

missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

As on 01.04.2024, 22 projects (10 New Line, 03 Gauge Conversion and 09 Doubling) of total length 2,587 Km, costing ₹33,467 Crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which 665 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,154 Crore has been incurred upto March' 2024. The summary is as under:-

Plan Head	No. of projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned (in Km)	Expenditure upto March 2024 (₹in Cr.)
New Line	10	872	24	1,223
Gauge Conversion	3	748	604	3,267
Doubling /Multitracking	9	967	37	2,664
Total	22	2,587	665	7,154

Madurai-Thoothukkudi(Tuticorin) via Maniyachi doubling project has been completed in july 2023.

Till date, about 96% of Broad Gauge network situated in the State of Tamil Nadu has been electrified. The work of electrification in the balance sections has been taken up.

Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is as under:

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹879 crore/year
2025-26	₹ 6,626 crore (more than 7.5 times)

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 climate conditions etc.
