GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 571 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025

FUNDING FOR LAND ACQUISITION FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS

571. DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government provides adequate funds for the land acquisition process to expedite long pending railway projects in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the average price fixed by the Government for acquiring one acre of land in urban and rural areas as compared to the price provided by NHAI and other Government departments;
- (c) whether the Government has provided adequate funds for the pending and ongoing railway projects in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof:
- (d) whether the Government has taken serious steps to ensure timely completion of railway projects in Tamil Nadu pending more than five years, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the measures taken by the Government to accelerate the completion of pending railway projects?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/UT wise/District wise as the Railway

projects may span across State/UT/District 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, socioeconomic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

Railway projects in Tamil Nadu are covered by Southern Railway (SR), South Central Railway (SCR) and South Western Railway (SWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

As on 01.04.2025, 15 projects (9 New Line, 03 Gauge Conversion and 03 Doubling) of total length 1,700 Km, costing ₹22,808 Crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu, are sanctioned, out of which 665 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,591 Crore has been incurred upto March' 2025. The summary is as under:-

Plan Head	No. of projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned (in Km)	Expenditure upto March 2025 (₹in Cr.)
New Line	9	812	24	1,337
Gauge Conversion	3	748	604	3,471
Doubling /Multitracking	3	140	37	2,783
Total	15	1700	665	7,591

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)

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are held up due to delay in land acquisition. Status of land acquisition in Tamil Nadu is as under:

Total Land required for Projects in Tamil Nadu	4315 Ha
Land Acquired	1038 Ha (24%)
Balance Land to be acquired	3277 Ha (76%)

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	42	51
4.	Mannargudi-Pattukkottai (41 km)	196	0	196
5.	Thanjavur-Pattukottai (52 km)	152	0	152

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

Land is acquired for Railway Projects through State Government who decide the compensation amount to be paid.

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, 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 etc. All these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project/s.
