

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.245
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2016**

TRACK RENEWAL WORK

***245. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of railway tracks in the country;**
- (b) whether more than 5300 km length of the track is due for renewal and if so, the details of track-wise reasons for the backlog of renewal projects;**
- (c) whether arrears of track renewal are accumulating year by year resulting in disproportionately high maintenance and reduced reliability of assets and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Railways has prepared any target plan for track renewal during the Twelfth Plan period and if so, the details thereof, zone-wise; and**
- (e) the steps taken by the Railways to speed up the track renewal works to reduce the maintenance cost and increase the reliability of assets?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 245 BY SHRI VINAYAK BHURAO RAUT AND SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.08.2016 REGARDING TRACK RENEWAL WORK.

(a) The total railway track length as on 31.3.2015 is 1,17,996 Kilometers.

(b) & (c): Track renewal is a continuous activity, which is to be undertaken as and when a stretch of track becomes due for renewal on age-cum-condition basis. Track renewal are planned in advance every year and their execution is prioritized according to condition of track and overall availability of funds ensuring all the time that the track is in a sound condition for safe running of trains. In case, if any stretch of track is not renewed in time due to various reasons including scarcity of funds, suitable speed restrictions is imposed to ensure safe running of trains. The sanctioned track renewal yet to be completed have reduced from 7258 km for the year 2008-09 to 5300 km for the year 2014-15. Further, it has reduced to 5100 km in 2015-16.

(d): Track renewal targets are fixed every year. The details of track renewal targets during twelfth plan period, zone-wise are as below:

Complete Track renewal Units (CTR Units)

Railway	2012-13	2013-14*	2014-15*	2015-16	2016-17
Central Railway	244	156	200	220	124
Eastern Railway	207	195	183	200	108
East Central Railway	200	149	171	150	105
East Coast Railway	71	70	62	110	58
Northern Railway	627	359	385	390	299
North Central Railway	257	203	130	150	94
North Eastern Railway	112	48	68	90	44
Northeast Frontier Railway	76	53	27	50	21
North Western Railway	58	24	24	50	40
Southern Railway	133	90	102	150	111
South Central Railway	285	197	175	190	67
South Eastern Railway	156	111	110	150	58
South East Central Railway	84	71	102	120	98
South Western Railway	117	105	102	110	59
Western Railway	194	143	165	190	121
West Central Railway	179	126	194	180	93
Total	3000	2100	2200	2500	1500

Note:- * denotes Revised Targets

(e) Steps taken by Railways to speed up Track renewal, to reduce maintenance cost and increase the reliability of assets are as under:

- (i) The track length sanctioned for renewal in 2016-17 has been increased from 1028 km in 2014-15 to 2950 km in year 2016-17.**
- (ii) The progress of Track renewal has increased from 2424 km in 2014-15 to 2794 km in 2015-16.**
- (iii) Bio Toilets are being provided in trains to prevent corrosion of rails due to toilet droppings. All Trains running between Rameswaram and Manmadurai in Southern Railway have been fitted with Bio Toilets. This section has been declared Green Corridor.**
- (iv) A proposal for creation of graded Rastriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) of total ₹119183 crores for safety related works to be operated over next five years has been sent to Ministry of Finance for reconsideration, the details of which are as under.**

Item of Work	Total Anticipated amount
Civil Engineering Assets including Track Renewal, rehabilitation of Bridges and Isolation of Railway Line etc.	₹ 44979 Cr.
Safety Works at Level crossings including construction of ROBs/RUBs.	₹ 43444 Cr.
S&T Department (Provision of Train Protection warning system, upgradation of Signalling system, etc.)	₹ 10140 Cr.
Mechanical Engineering Department (Freight and Coach design and maintenance etc.)	₹ 9236.55 Cr.
Electrical Engineering Department (Replacement of overaged Traction Distribution System, audio/video recording of Loco cabs, etc.)	₹ 9495 Cr.
Human Resource Development which includes Upgradation of training institutes, running rooms, crew lobbies and setting up of safety village.	₹ 1861.44 Cr
Total	₹ 119183 Cr.

- (v) Electronic monitoring of track geometry with Track Recording Cars (TRC) and Portable Oscillation Monitoring (OMS) Systems to detect track geometry defects to plan maintenance timely**
- (vi) Scheduled inspection of track by Railway Officials as per laid down frequency**
- (vii) Use of Technology like Track Management System to decide rationalized maintenance requirement and optimized inputs by providing database and decision support system.**
- (viii) Improved tools with reduced weight have been standardized for trackmen to help them in better maintenance of tracks.**

Track renewal works are prioritized according to overall availability of funds ensuring all the time that track is in sound condition for safe running of trains. As on 31.03.2016, Track Renewal and related works covering 2950 km have been sanctioned. In addition, 2950 km Track Renewal have also been sanctioned in 2016-17. As per norms, Track Renewals works are to be completed within two to three years of sanction. This, however, also depends on budget availability.
