

Efforts are made to complete works as per the targets, wherever fixed.

(e) Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with resources constraints, as a result of which the projects take relatively longer time for completion. This coupled with other reasons e.g. delay in land acquisition, forestry and environment clearance, escalation, change in standards of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas etc. during the intervening period, lead to increase in cost of projects.

#### **Pending railway projects in Kerala**

1850. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the pending rail projects in the State of Kerala and the anticipated time of completion of each ongoing project;

(b) whether Government is taking steps for formulation of a new Peninsular or Coastal Railway Zone, covering the State of Kerala and adjacent areas to ensure better development of rail transport in the region;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Details of the ongoing projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala alongwith status and target date for completion, wherever fixed are as under:

S.No.	Project	Status and target date for completion, wherever fixed
1	2	3

#### **New line**

1.	Angamali-Sabarimala (116 km)	In view of the resolution passed by Kerala Legislative Assembly and objections of Forest Department, Angamali-Sabarimala line has been terminated at Azutha. Work on this new line is held up due to public protest and recent Court orders.
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1	2	3
		Representations received from the local people have been examined in consultation with the Ministry of Environment & Forest. State Government is yet to hand over required land to Railways.
2.	Tirunavaya-Guruvayur (35 km)	Alignment of first 8 km finalised. On balance portion, final location survey is held up due to public protest. State Government requested for necessary assistance.
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>		
1.	Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat and Pollachi-Coimbatore (224.88 km)	Podanur-Coimbatore (6 Km) section commissioned. Work on Dindigul-Palani (58 Km) is expected to be completed by March, 2011 & Palani-Pollachi-Palghat (58 km) is also being expedited for completion during 2011-12.
2.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar (357 km)	Virudhunagar-Tenkasi-Sengottai (131 Km) and Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur (61 Km) and Quilon-Punalur (45 km) sections have been commissioned. Tirunelveli-Tenkasi (72 km) is expected to be completed during 2010-11. Works on Punalur-Sengottai Ghat section also taken up.
<b>Doubling</b>		
1.	Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara (24 km)	Land related papers submitted to State Government. Bridge works on certain stretches taken up.
2.	Chengannur-Chingavanam (26.5 km)	Land related papers submitted to State Government. Bridge works on certain stretches taken up.

1	2	3
3.	Kuruppantara-Chingavanam (26.54 km)	Final location survey completed. Land related papers submitted to State Government.
4.	Ambalapuzha-Haripad (18.13 km)	Final location survey taken up. Land related papers submitted to State Government.
5.	Calicut-Mangalore (221 km)	218 km commissioned. Netravati-Kankanadi (3 km) is expected to be completed by March, 2011.
6.	Cheppad-Kayankulam (7.76 km)	Earthwork, minor bridges have been completed. Major bridge and track linking are in progress. Expected to be completed by March, 2011.
7.	Mavelikara-Chengannur (12.30 km)	Due to local resistance, works are in progress with police protection.
8.	Cheppad-Haripad (5.28 km)	Due to local resistance, works are in slow progress. Earthwork completed recently.
9.	Emakulam-Kumbalam (7.71 km)	Preliminary arrangements are being made to take up the work.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) New Zones are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/administrative requirements, etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency, without any regional considerations.

Further, the issue of setting up of new Zones has been examined by various Committees i.e. Railway Reforms Committee (RRC) & Advisors' Committee and none of these committees recommended setting up a separate Zonal Railway in Kerala.

#### **Wagon factory at Cherthala in Kerala**

1851. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: