

also conducted in trains against travelling on transferred ticket. Surveillance/Monitoring of the working of reservation offices is also undertaken by installing CCTVs to prevent possible activities of touts. Railway staff, if found indulging in malpractices in connivance with touts, are taken up under the Disciplinary and Appeal Rules. During the financial year 2012-13 (upto January, 2013), 2115 touts have been apprehended/prosecuted.

#### **Railway projects**

†2158. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway projects on which work is under progress at present and the details thereof;

(b) the time by when these projects were to be completed and by when the above projects would now be completed; and

(c) the additional funds that will have to be spent due to this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) As on 01.04.2012, Railways have 347 ongoing projects consisting of 132 new line, 42 gauge conversion and 173 doublings project.

(b) Due to huge throw forward and limited availability of resources, deadline for every project is not feasible to be fixed. Completion time of projects are decided annually depending upon availability of resources and progress made on individual project. Target time for completion of any project cannot be fixed beforehand due to (i) delays in land acquisition and forestry clearances; (ii) adverse law and order condition and other market forces; (iii) failure of contracts; and (iv) technological changes, improved standard of construction and other changes in scope of work due to change in traffic pattern etc which could not be anticipated at the time of sanction of project.

(c) The additional funds that will have to be spent due to this delay cannot be quantified in real terms as escalation depends on various factors every year.

#### **Increase in train fares**

†2159. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.