

Railway connectivity

3564. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is proposing any measures to link railway networks to ports, mines, industrial units and plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is proposing to encourage private investment towards facilitating the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Strengthening rail connectivity to ports, mines, industrial units and plants is an ongoing exercise depending on capacity requirements and availability of resources. Ministry of Railways is also encouraging investments from private sector, State Government and Public Sector Undertaking for strengthening of rail linkages to such facilities through appropriate policy measures.

The recently approved policy for encouraging private investment in rail connectivity provides for five participative models. These are as under:

- (i) Non-Government Private Line Model
- (ii) Joint Venture model
- (iii) Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) model
- (iv) Capacity augmentation with funding provided by customers
- (v) Capacity augmentation through annuity model.

Delay in implementation of projects

3565. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that there is delay in clearances and implementation of large projects;

(b) if so, the details of large projects pending due to delay in clearances; and

(c) the steps Government is taking in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing Rs. 150 crore and above on time and cost overruns, on the basis of information supplied by the project implementing agencies. As on 1st January 2013, of a total of 566 projects on the monitor of this Ministry, 276 projects were delayed with respect to their original dates of commissioning. In these 276 projects, delay in clearances relating to environment and forest were reported by the project implementing agencies in 43 projects - 8 in Railways Sector, 10 in Coal Sector, 15 in Road Transport and Highways Sector, 2 in Petroleum Sector and 8 in Power Sector.

(c) The major steps undertaken to ensure timely completion of projects include rigorous project appraisal; On-line Computerised Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Standing Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of the infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; setting up of Cabinet Committee on Investment (CCI) to review and monitor the implementation of major projects, including issues relating to clearances/approvals; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Papers to be Laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)...