

Formation of separate Waltair Zone

1213. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether instead of having three Divisions at present under East Coast Railway Zone, are more Division can be added to it;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the detailed reasons for not clubbing Vijayawada and Guntur with two Divisions with Waltair Division, to form a separate Waltair Zone by which S.C. Railway would be still left with four Divisions; and
- (d) the detailed reasons for not forming a separate Waltair Zone when S.C. Railway is heavily loaded with gross earnings from the proposed Waltair Zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) The jurisdiction of a Zone/Division is decided on the basis of operational/administrative requirements, without any regional considerations, keeping in view (i) the geographical contiguity of the Divisions forming a Zone; (ii) smooth movement of traffic operationally; and (iii) provision of better control with a view to improving the efficiency of the system. The jurisdiction of East Coast Railway has been finalized keeping the above criteria in view. The present arrangement is working satisfactorily and no change is considered necessary.

(c) and (d) New Zones are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/ administrative requirements etc. and not on regional considerations alone.

Reorganization of Indian Railways has already been carried out during the year 2002 and 2003 based on all such relevant issues and the present arrangement is working satisfactorily.

Wardha-Yavatmal-Nanded new railway line

1214. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of progress for laying new railway lines which were approved during the last five years;
- (b) by when the Wardha-Yavatmal-Nanded new railway line, approved in Railway Budget 2008-09, would be completed;

(c) the total allocation of funds from the year of its approval in 2008-09 till 31 March, 2013; and

(d) the percentage of work done towards construction of this 270 km. long railway line which is a life-line for Vidarbha region of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) During the last five years *i.e.* 2008-09 to 2012-13 and the current year, 75 number of new line projects have been included in Railway Budgets. None of these projects have been completed and all of these projects are in various stages of execution and are progressing as per availability of resources.

(b) Targets for completion of Wardha-Nanded new line project has not been fixed.

(c) The total allocation of funds from the year of its approval from 2008-09 to 2012-13 on Wardha-Nanded new line project is given below:-

Year	Fund allocated (Rs. In Crores)
2008-09	0.01
2009-10	15.00
2010-11	40.00
2011-12	40.00
2012-13	15.00

In addition to these funds from Railway, funds are provided by Government of Maharashtra sharing 40% of the cost of project.

(d) The overall physical progress of the project is 3.7%.

Online railway ticket reservation

†1215. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers are not getting proper benefit of website meant for Railway reservation off counters due to frequent disruption and its extremely slow speed;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is contemplating to increase the bandwidth of its website to address these problems;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.