

(c) Track linking of the remaining portion of the project is planned for completion by March, 2014 subject to availability of funds. Sections will be made operational after receiving mandatory authorization from Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Expanding the railway network in Konkan region

1052. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have further plans to expand rail network in the Konkan region of Maharashtra, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether there is any proposal to link Kolhapur with Konkan Railway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with target set for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) Railways have no policy to sanction projects region - wise/State-wise.

(b) To link Kolhapur with Konkan Railway at Rajapur, survey is in progress. The distance between Kolhapur to Rajapur is approximately 120 kms. In past also (2001), a survey for new line between Kolhapur-Ratnagiri (Konkan Railway) *via* Talwada was carried out. However, due to unremunerative nature, the project was shelved.

(c) At present there is no sanctioned project, therefore, no target/time-frame can be given.

Railway Projects in Karnataka

1053. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received by Railways for development of railway infrastructure, stations, stoppage of trains etc. in Karnataka, particularly under Shimoga Parliamentary Constituency;

(b) the details of action taken thereon by Railways, so far;

(c) whether the announcements made in the last Railway Budget for Karnataka, including new trains, have been started/taken up; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Based on the demands received for the proposals falling fully/partly in the States of Karnataka, surveys have been taken up in the Budget 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 and their details are given as under:-

(Rs. in crore)				
Sl.No.	Proposal	Year	Anticipated Cost	Status
1	2	3	4	5
New Line				
1.	Gadag-Harihar <i>via</i> Harpanahalli (94 Km)	2010-11	465	Survey completed and proposal not found viable.
2.	Bijapur-Athani-Shedbal (113 Km)	2010-11	810	Survey completed and proposal not found viable.
3.	Marikuppam-Kuppam (24 Km)	2010-11	100	Project included in the Budget 2012-13. Land acquisition papers submitted to the State Government.
4.	Mulbagal-Nangali-Chittoor (130 Km)	2010-11	931	Survey completed and examination of its report taken up.
5.	Almatti-Yadgir (160 Km)	2010-11	1400	Survey completed and examination of its report taken up.
6.	Belgaum-Bagalkot-Raichur (345 Km)	2010-11	2227	Survey completed and proposal not found viable.

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Mysore-Kushalnagar-Madikere (84 Km)	2010-11	667	Survey completed and need for taking up this proposal is under consideration.
8.	Belgaum-Sawantwadi (80 Km)	2010-11	-	Survey has been taken up.
9.	Belur-Sringeri (70 Km)	2010-11	-	Survey has been taken up.
10.	Byndoor-Kolluru-Haladi-Hebri-Karkal-Moodabidri-Venoor-Belthangady-Dharmasthala-Nettane (60 Km)	2010-11		Survey has been taken up.
11.	Krishnagiri-Chamarajanagar (170 Km)	2010-11	-	Survey has been taken up.
12.	Mysore-Mangalore via Madikere (272 Km)	2010-11	-	Survey has been taken up.
13.	Padubidri-Karkala-Belthangade-Ujire-Dharamasthala-Nettane (120 Km)	2010-11		Survey has been taken up.
14.	Tumkur-Davangere (199 Km)	2010-11	913	Project included in the Budget 2011-12. Land acquisition papers submitted to the State Government.
15.	Panathur-Kaniyooru (31 Km)	2010-11	-	Survey has been taken up.
16.	Chikballapur-Gauribidanur (44 Km)	2010-11	327	Survey completed and proposal processed for requisite clearances.

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Thalassery-Mysore (299 Km)	2011-12	3379	Survey completed and examination of its report taken up.
18.	Koppal-Sindhanur (125 Km)	2011-12	-	Survey has been taken up.
19.	Tumkur-Chamaraj-anagar (190 Km)	2011-12	-	Survey has been taken up.
20.	Karad-Belgaum via Nipani (180 Km)	2011-12	-	Survey has been taken up.
21.	Nanjangud-Nilambur Road (236 Km)	2011-12	4267	Survey completed and examination of its report taken up.
22.	Kolhapur-Dharwad (186 Km)	2011-12	-	Survey has been taken up.
23.	Haveri-Sirsi (70 Km)	2012-13	-	Survey has been taken up.
24.	Dandeli to Hubli-Ankola line (30 Km)	2012-13	-	Survey has been taken up.
25.	Shimoga-Shikaripura-Ranebennaur (110 Km)	2012-13	-	Survey has been taken up.
26.	Madhugiri-Gauribidanur (40 Km)	2012-13	-	Survey has been taken up.

Doubling

1.	Birur-Shimoga (60 Km)	2011-12	-	Survey has been taken up.
2.	Hubli-Bangalore (390 Km)	2011-12		On this alignment, double broad gauge line already exists for Bangalore-Tumkur and patch doubling works taken up for Arsikere-Birur, Birur-Shivani,

1	2	3	4	5
				Shivani-Hosadurga and Hosadurga-Chikjajur sections. Thus, survey for doubling of Turhkur-Arsikere and Chikjajur-Hubli sections have been taken up.
3.	Gadag-Solapur (284 Km)	2012-13	1922	Survey completed and examination of its report taken up.
4.	Shoranur-Mangalore 3rd line (327 Km)	2013-14	-	Survey has been taken up.

Proposals/representations are received at various levels of Railway administration *viz.* Railway Station Master, Divisions, Zonal Headquarters, Railway Board, etc. for provision of stoppage of trains and action as found feasible and justified is taken. As such, Indian Railways do not maintain compendium of such data.

Based on the demands/representations received from various levels for development of railway stations, 26 stations namely Almatti, Badami, Bidar, Bellary, Chamarajanagar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Londa, Wadi, Bagalkot, Chikballapur, Chintamani, Devanahalli, Doddballapur, Gauribidanur, Gokak Road, Hubli, Kabakaputtur, Kolar, Koppal, Nanjangud Town, Sambre, Sidlaghatta, Srinivasapura and Yelahanka Junction in the State of Karnataka have been identified for development under the Adarsh Station Scheme. However, upgradation/modernization of railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken based on the volume of passenger traffic handled at the station, *inter-se* priority of works etc. subject to availability of funds etc.

(c) and (d) As announced in the Budget 2013-14, necessary action has been taken up to seek requisite clearances for Gadg-Wadi, Chickballapur-Gowribidanur, Chickballapur-Puttaparthi-Sri Satya Sai Nilayam and Srinivasapura-Madanapalli new line projects, estimates have been processed to resume works on Chikmagalur-Sakleshpur and Bangalore-Chamarajanagar non forest section of Bangalore-

Satyamangalam new line project and survey for Tumkur-Maddur-Malevalli new line has been taken up.

Indian Railways do not introduce new trains on State-wise basis as Railway network and operations run across State boundaries. However, generally new train services announced in the Railway Budget are to be introduced during the same financial year. Out of 126 new trains announced in the last Railway Budget 2013-14, 56 new services have been introduced till 12.12.2013.

Tickets for short distance journey

1054. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that whenever railway fares go up people stop buying tickets for short distance journey;

(b) if so, whether Railways have decided to adopt any new method to discourage such practice; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways had noticed this trend way back in 2002-03 when the fares were revised, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) During the current Financial Year (April to November, 2013) there has been a marginal drop of 0.57% in the number of passengers booked as compared to last year owing to various factors including change in Advance Reservation Period (ARP), tariff rationalization and general slowdown in economy. During the FY 2002-03, there was a drop of 2.40% in the number of passengers carried as compared to the previous year.

Railways have, however, taken a number of measures to boost the sale of tickets. These measures include facilitation of availability of tickets by appointment of Jansadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), proliferation of Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs), intensifying ticket checking drives to check ticketless travel, augmentation of train services, running of special trains to clear rush etc.