

(b) 534 km of Sonnagar - Dankuni section on Eastern DFC is to be implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP).

(c) Western DFC is targeted to be commissioned in 2018 and Eastern DFC in 2019.

Railway projects in Maharashtra

1829. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the status of sanctioning of projects of laying new railway lines, doubling the tracks and widening of existing lines in Maharashtra which are long pending before the Ministry;

(b) whether Government has prepared any time-frame in this regard for providing adequate Central funds for ongoing and new railway projects in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the present status of the funds allocated; and

(d) the reasons for delay in sanctioning railway projects in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY) : (a) A total of 19 surveys for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling of lines in Maharashtra have been completed and are pending before the Ministry. Of these, 9 survey reports for New Lines, 2 survey reports for Gauge Conversion and 1 Survey report for Doubling are under examination in the Ministry and 7 survey reports of New Line have been sent to Planning Commission for getting "In principle approval."

(b) and (c) Funds are provided yearly as per the availability of resources for completion of projects. An outlay of Rs. 823.33 crore have been provided for 2013-14 for ongoing projects falling fully/partly in Maharashtra.

(d) Railway projects are taken up after conducting techno-economic studies. Sanctioning of projects is a continuous process and projects are sanctioned every year during a five year plan.