

New rail line project in Uttar Pradesh

†*200. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the share of Uttar Pradesh in new rail line projects announced during the last five years;

(b) the number of projects where work has commenced and the details of work completed so far, zone-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that last year, the Planning Commission had imposed a condition that State Government and Central Government will have to contribute equally in some projects; and

(d) whether due to this condition there is more likelihood of projects getting stalled?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Since 2009, 55 New Line projects have been sanctioned on Indian Railways out of which 5 New Line projects fall either fully or partly in the State of Uttar Pradesh, details of which are as under:

Sl.No.	Zonal Rly	Project Name	Cost (In crore Rupees)	Details of works completed
1.	Northern	Unchhar-Amethi (66.17 km)	380	Final location survey has been completed and land acquisition papers submitted.
2.	North Eastern	Anandnagar-Ghughali via Maharajganj (50 km)	307	These projects were included in the Budget 2013-14 subject to clearance from Planning Commission and approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. However, the projects could not be taken forward due to non-receipt of requisite approval.
3.	North Eastern	Kapilvastu-Basti via Bansi(91 km)	643	
4.	Northern	Chola-Bulandshahar (16 km)	159	
5.	Northern	Faizabad-Lalganj via Akbarganj, Maharajganj and Raibareilly (116 km)	654	

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Planning Commission, as a matter a policy, has decided in the year 2012 that the project proposals which are to be taken up on socio-economic considerations by the Ministry of Railways are to be supported by the concerned State Government by providing land free of cost and also bearing 50% of the cost of construction.

(d) This condition will help in mobilisation of more resources and expeditious completion of projects.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Damage of cotton crops due to 'MAR' disease

†1396. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of damage to cotton crops from 'MAR' disease in Amalner, Parola and Chopra tehsils of Dhule and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the disease 'MAR' has ruined the entire cotton crop of farmers and they have incurred heavy losses;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide special economic package to the farmers to save them from financial loss;

(d) whether Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to seek financial assistance from the Centre in this regard; and

(e) whether Central Government would have an assessment or survey on losses to the farmers, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Cotton wilt is caused by *Fusarium oxysporum fungus* locally known as MAR disease of cotton. As per information provided by the Commissionerate of Agriculture, Pune, Government of Maharashtra, about 18000 hectares in Amalner, Parola and Chopra tehsils of Jalgaon district is affected by Cotton wilt ('MAR'). In Dhule, 8560 hectares area is affected by this disease, which is 3.74% of the total area under cotton in that district.

Government of Maharashtra is keeping a vigil through the Crop Pest Surveillance and Advisory Project (CROPSAP) on the disease in Cotton in the State.

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