

New railway tracks in Chhattisgarh

1560. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the time-frame for commencement and completion of railway track from Ambikapur to Barwadih and Raigarh to Dharamjaigarh in Chhattisgarh; and
- (b) whether there is any plan to connected Jharsuguda to Ambikapur and if so, the route details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The work of construction of new line Ambikapur (Chirimiri) to Barwadih was included in Budget of 2013-14 at an abstract cost of ₹ 1137 crore subject to requisite approval. The project could not be taken forward as the condition put forth by NITI Aayog of cost sharing was not agreed to by Coal India Limited, Government of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

New line work between Raigarh to Dharamjaigarh is a part of approved work of Kharsia-Ghaharghoda-Korichhaapar-Dharamjaigarh including spur from Ghaharghoda-Donga Mauha (104 Km.) at a cost of ₹1647 crore which has been taken up through Special Purpose Vehicle. Land acquisition and forestry clearance have been taken up. Wherever land has been acquired tenders for execution have been awarded. As many of above factors are not within the control of Railways, it is not feasible to fix timeline for the projects.

- (b) Survey for new line between Ambikapur to Jharsuguda *via* Baluali Sitapur, Pathalgaon, Korba has been taken up.

Setting up of solid waste plants

1561. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways propose to set up solid waste plants in its vacant land near railway stations, aimed at generating clean energy from the solid waste generated on its network, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the railway stations identified for the purpose;
- (c) the quantum of energy estimated to be generated from these plants and the manner in which the energy would be utilized; and