

**Survey for new railway line in Chhattisgarh**

†1581. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that survey of a new railway line from Raipur to Jharsuguda has been conducted;

(b) whether Raipur to Baloda Bazar, Girodhpuri and Sarangarh to Jharsuguda have been included in the survey; and

(c) by when will this new railway line start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Survey for new line from Raipur to Jharsuguda *via* Balode Bazar, Sarangarh has been completed in 2010-11. The work was included in Budget 2013-14, subject to requisite approvals. The project could not be taken forward as NITI Aayog did not accord “In principle Approval” to the project on the ground of huge throwforward of ongoing projects & limited overall availability of resources for new lines.

**Doubling of railway line on Villupuram Dindigul Section**

1582. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are unable to complete the doubling of railway line between Villupuram-Dindigul section in Chennai-Kanyakumari trunk route, which is pending for a long time, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways will allocate substantial funds so that doubling work could be completed in a time-bound manner on this section, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Villupuram-Dindigul doubling with electrification (273kms) was included in Railway Budget 2008-09 and track linking of 253 kms length has already been completed on this section. Out of this completed length, 90 kms section has been commissioned. An allotment of ₹ 520 cr. Has been made for this project in 2015-16, against ₹ 265 cr. Allocated in 2014-15 and ₹ 286 cr. Allocated in 2013-14. The project is suffering on account of delay in handing over of land by Government of Tamil Nadu.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.