

(b) The major components of social service obligations are losses relating to: Essential Commodities carried below cost; Passenger and Other Coaching services; Operation of Uneconomic Branch lines; and New Lines opened for Traffic during the last 15 years.

(c) No, Sir. The response from Ministry of Finance is still awaited.

Separate Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh

1869. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee was constituted to study setting up of a separate Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh as per the mandate of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act;

(b) if so, the details of each of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether Railways have studied the recommendations; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken on each of the recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) As per Item 8 of Schedule 13 (Infrastructure) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, a Committee was set up to examine feasibility of establishing a new Railway Zone in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh. The Committee has been asked to consult various stakeholders, including the Members of Parliament, State Governments etc. before a final decision is taken.

Railway projects sanctioned on cost-sharing basis with Government of Maharashtra

1870. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned three railway projects in Maharashtra on cost-sharing basis with the State Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether share of funds has been released by Government for implementation of the projects; and

(c) if not, by when the share of funds is likely to be released by the Government to Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Company (MRIDC)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Following three new railway line projects falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra have been taken up on cost-sharing basis with the Government of Maharashtra:—

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of project and (length)	Latest anticipated cost	Cost sharing ratio	
			Railway	Government of Maharashtra
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath (261 km)	2826	50%	50%
2.	Wardha-Nanded <i>via</i> Yavatmal-Pusood (270 km)	2765	60%	40%
3.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli (50 km)	232	50%	50%

(b) Funds are released as per progress of the projects. Funds released approximately till date by Railways as well as Government of Maharashtra for these projects are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of project (length)	Funds released by	
		Government of Maharashtra	Railways
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath (261 km)	570	635
2.	Wardha-Nanded <i>via</i> Yavatmal-Pusood (270 km)	125	400
3.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli (50 km)	10	15

(c) These projects are being executed by Railways on cost-sharing basis. Therefore, funds are coming from State Government to Railways and not to Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Company (MRIDC).

Delay in constitution of Railway Committees

†1871. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Railway Committees constituted at DRM and other levels have not been constituted, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.