

**Cost overrun of railway projects**

2713. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are facing a cost overrun of ₹ 2.46 lakh crores;

(b) if so, list of projects facing cost and time overrun; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) At present, 503 Railway projects including 183 New Lines, 57 Gauge Conversion and 263 Doubling Projects are in different stages of execution/planning/sanction. The completion of Railway projects requires acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, various statutory clearances etc. leading to time and cost overrun. Railway is holding regular meetings with State Government and concerned Central Government officials on various issues for timely completion of the projects.

For important projects, capacity enhancement projects, last mile connectivity etc, institutional financing has been done by arranging loan from M/s Life Insurance Corporation of India Limited for ₹ 1.5 lakh crore, which has increased Railways' capacity for committed fund provision for essential projects.

**Completion of Nadikudi-Srikalahasti project**

2714. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government is drawn to the matter of Nadikudi-Srikalahasti Railway Project which is pending since a long time for completion;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay in completion of the project;

(c) the status of the project as on date; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to complete the project at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Nadikudi-Srikalahasti new line project was included in Pink Book 2011-12 on 50% cost sharing and land free of cost with Government of Andhra Pradesh.