

District boundaries or on regional considerations. There is no such proposal before the Railway Board.

Construction work on Hajipur-Mahua rail line

†112. SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a concrete step on Hajipur-Mahua Rail line in Bihar after conducting a survey of the same;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by when the construction work of Hajipur-Mahua rail line would commence; and
- (d) the latest status of the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir. At present, Hajipur-Mahua is not a sanctioned railway project. However, a Reconnaissance Engg-cum-Traffic Survey (RETS) for new line between Bhagwanpur and Samastipur *via* Mahua, Karpurigram, Tajpur (60 km.) has been taken up. Sanction/Materialisation of this project depends upon its financial viability projected in its Survey report.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Status of broad gauge conversion of Ujjain-Fatehabad rail track

†113. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of the work done till date for converting the Ujjain-Fatehabad meter gauge to broad gauge and the details of the time-bound projects for such conversion and the target fixed for completion of the said work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): Gauge conversion of Ujjain-Fatehabad (22.96 Km.) metre gauge to broad gauge has been sanctioned in the year 2016-17 at a cost of ₹ 104.82 crore as Material Modification to Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola gauge conversion project. An outlay of ₹ 555 crore has been provided for the year 2019-20 for Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola gauge conversion project including Ujjain-Fatehabad material modification project. Land acquisition (for Ujjain-Fatehabad) has been taken up. Earth work, blanketing, bridges work etc. are in different stages of execution in the available land. The section is targeted to be completed in current financial year 2019-20.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.