

New railway projects and surveys

†774. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the ongoing and new railway projects and surveys in the country, especially in the backward and rural areas during the last three years;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated for the said projects, project-wise as well as State-wise details of duration in which the said fund was spent; and
- (c) by when the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Presently, Indian Railways have taken up 498 Railway projects of length 49,069 km, costing ₹6.75 lakh crore, which are in different stages of execution/planning/sanction, out of which, commissioning of 8,979 km has been achieved and expenditure of ₹1.54 lakh crore incurred up to March, 2019.

Above projects include 188 New Line projects of length 21,295 km, costing ₹3.87 lakh crore, which are in different stages of execution/planning/sanction. Out of which, commissioning of 2,622 km has been achieved and expenditure of ₹85,536 crore incurred up to March, 2019.

In addition to the above, during the last three years (2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19) and the current financial year, 276 Surveys pertaining to New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling have been completed.

Most of the new line projects have been taken up primarily on socio-economic considerations in backward and remote areas for the speedy development of economically backward areas.

(b) Funds to the Railway Projects are allocated project-wise, not State-wise. The details of allotment of funds and expenditure project-wise are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website *i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget).

(c) The timely completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities (both underground and over ground), statutory

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

clearances from various - authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic considerations, encountering unforeseen conditions like earthquake, flooding, excessive rains, strikes of labour, orders of Hon'ble Courts, situation and conditions of working agencies/contractors etc. and all these factors vary from project to project and site to site. Hence, no confirmed time frame can be fixed for completion of projects.

Vande Bharat Express

775. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided not to manufacture Vande Bharat Express rakes in the country any more;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons for stopping of the manufacturing of more such high speed Make in India trains in the country; and

(c) the details of the cost to manufacture one Vande Bharat Express train (high speed train) and how many such trains have been produced?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Integral Coach Factory (ICF), a departmental Production Unit of Indian Railways, has so far produced two "Vande Bharat" train sets consisting of 16 coaches each. These train sets are the first two prototypes with ultra modern facilities. These being prototypes, it is not possible to ascertain their exact cost at this stage including various overheads, especially as ICF also produced over 3000 other coaches in 2018-19.

Indian Railways is planning to produce 40 "Vande Bharat" rakes and it would be possible to determine the exact cost of manufacturing during their production.

Electrification of Roha-Thokur section

†776. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage-wise details of the electrification work completed at Roha-Thokur section (740 route Km.), of Konkan Railways, so far;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.