GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2184 ANSWERED ON 06.08.2021

YAVATMAL RAILWAY PROJECTS

2184. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has sanctioned ₹ 1500 crore earlier in the year 2016 for converting the narrow gauge Yavatmal-Murtizapur-Achalpur railway line into broad gauge to run Shakuntala Express;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons for the delay;
- (c) the present status of the said project;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Railways has made agreement with the State Government of Maharashtra for Achalpur-Murtizapur-Yavatmal and Pulgaon-Arvi line gauge conversion proposal to be shared 50:50; and
- (e) if so, the current status of the project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): Yavatmal-Murtizapur (113 km), Murtizapur-Achalpur (77 km) and Pulgaon-Arvi (35 km) (total 225 km) Narrow Gauge railway sections are parts of Shakuntala Railway owned by Central Provinces Railway Company (C.P. Railway). The proposal of gauge conversion of Shakuntala Railway was included in Capital Investment Programme 2017-18 in anticipation that State Government will take up the project in Joint Venture Mode.

However, presently the proposed Railway Line is not owned by Ministry of Railways and proposal of determination of Railway's Agreement with C.P. Railway is not final.

(d) and (e): No, Sir. Ministry of Railways has not made any cost sharing agreement with the State Government of Maharashtra for Yavatmal-Murtizapur-Achalpur and Pulgaon-Arvi line gauge conversion proposal.