

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.435
ANSWERED ON 04.02.2022

INDIAN RAILWAYS AND K-RAIL JOINT PROJECT

435 SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Railways and Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (K-Rail) has signed any 529.45 KM rail project between Kochuveli, near Thiruvananthapuram airport and Kasaragod district of Kerala.
- (b) if so, details and salient features thereof; and
- (c) whether any objections have been raised to this project, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b): Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL), a Joint Venture company of State Govt. of Kerala (51%) and Ministry of Railways (49%) has taken up the work of Semi High Speed Rail (Silver Line) from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod (530.6 Km) for development. Detailed Project Report (DPR) of this project has been submitted by KRDCL to the Ministry of Railways for approval and is being scrutinized. Cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 63941 Cr. by KRDCL. Salient feature of this project is as under:-

Route Length	530.6 Km
Gauge	Standard Gauge 1435 mm
Maximum Operation Speed	200 KMPH
Stations	Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Chengannur, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Kochi Airport, Thrissur, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod.
Track Structure	Ballasted and Ballast – less in Combination

Traction	2×25KV auto transformer type feeding system. Overhead contact system-simple catenary type
Power Supply	Kerala state Electricity Board Ltd. and Supply Supplemented by renewable Energy Supplies.
Signaling and Control	ETCS level 2 system
Communication	Long Term Evolution (LTE)
Fare Collection	Automatic fare collection system with Centralized computer and other Supporting System.

(c) Many representations are being received against this project in this ministry. Major issues raised are :- (i) thousands of hectares of cultivable land, 20,000 thousand houses, shops and business establishments will be ruined (ii) Angamaly railway station operates railway sidings for Food Corporation of India .This station is bound to expand westward side and hence Silver line will be an obstacle for this expansion (iii) Proposed alignment will also demolish many religious structures.
