GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365 ANSWERED ON 02.08.2024

THALASSERY-MYSURU, NILAMBUR-NANCHANGODE, KANCHAGAD-PANATHUR RAILWAY LINE PROJECT

1365 SHRI HARIS BEERAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed railway tracks project at Thalassery Mysuru, Nilambur -Nanchangode, Kanchagad - Panathur will reduce travel difficulties in Kerala and neighbouring States, if so, the present status of these railway tracks projects;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating to revise the Detailed Project Report (DPR) soon; and
- (c) the reason for delay in the implementation of the projects?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365 BY SHRI HARIS BEERAN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.08.2024 REGARDING THALASSERY - MYSURU, NILAMBUR -NANCHANGODE, KANCHAGAD - PANATHUR RAILWAY LINE PROJECT

(a) to (c): The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries.

The present status of Thalassery – Mysuru Newline, Nilabur – Nanjangud New Line and Kanhangad - Kaniyuru via Panathur New line projects are as follows:-

- Thalassery Mysure New Line Project (200 Km) :- The project has been identified by M/s Kerala Rail Development Corporation Ltd. (M/s KRDCL) a Joint Venture (JV) company controlled by State Government of Kerala (51%) for development. Government of Karnataka has raised objection regarding the alignment through Karnataka in view of the objection from the local public. The alignment was recently revised to avoid forest area or any eco-sensitive area. Detailed Survey work has been taken up by State Government of Kerala in consultation with State Government of Karnataka.
- Nilambur Nanjangud New Line (236 Km) :- Final Location Survey (FLS) for this project has been sanctioned for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).
- Kanhangad Kaniyuru New Line via Panathur (91 Km) :- A Feasibility Study for a new Railway line between Kanhangad and Kaniyuru via Panathur, (91 Km) has been completed. The alignment traverses through State of Karnataka and Kerala. The Project has low traffic projections.

Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. Railway Infrastructure Projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations including connectivity among neighbouring State etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects in State of Kerala as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹372 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹2,033 crore	more than 5 times
2024-25	₹3,011 crore	more than 8 times

Though fund allocation has increased manifold but pace of execution of project is dependent on expeditious land acquisition.

Railway acquires the land through State Government. State Government assesses the compensation amount and advises to Railway. On receipt of demand from State Government, Railway deposits compensation amount with concerned District Land acquisition Authority.

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala is held up due to delay in land acquisition and only about 62.83 Ha land has been acquired out of total requirement of about 459.54 Ha.

Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects though Railway has paid ₹2125.61 Crore to Government of Kerala for land acquisition.

Support of the Government of Kerala is needed to expedite the land acquisition.
