

*[English]***Gauge Conversion in Gujarat**

277. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Gujarat, Members of Parliament, Business Organisation and Railway Trade Unions from that State regarding pending railway projects and conversion of metre gauge lines including Rajkot-Veraval line into broad gauge lines;

(b) if so, details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these pending projects and metre gauge lines are likely to be converted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the request received, action taken thereon and targets are as under :

Name of the work	Action taken	Target
1	2	3
1 Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval and its extension upto Kodinar/ Somnath	Work is in progress for Rajkot-Veraval portion. A survey for extension of line upto Kodinar/ Somnath has been taken up.	9 <sup>th</sup> Plan
2 Gauge conversion of Surondemagar, Dhola-Dhasa-Mahuva with extension upto Pipavav	Work has been sanctioned. Preliminary arrangements for starting the work are on hand.	-do-
3. Gauge conversion of Viramgam-Mehsana railway line (A part of Bhildi-Viramgam project).	Work has been sanctioned. Preliminary arrangement for starting the work are being made.	-do-
4. Gauge conversion of Mehsana-Patan MG line (A part of Bhildi-Viramgam project).	The work on Mehsana-Patan Section has been temporarily frozen at present due to low operational priority work	Will be decided whenever the work is resumed.

1	2	3
5. Gauge conversion of Navalkhi-Dahinsara Morbi-Wankaner and Dahinara-Maliya Miyana railway line.	Work has been sanctioned. Preliminary arrangements for starting the work are being made.	9 <sup>th</sup> Plan
6. Gauge conversion of Gandhidham-Bhuj-Nalla railway line	Work on Gandhidham-Bhuj is in progress. A survey has been taken up for gauge conversion of Bhuj-Nalla section.	9 <sup>th</sup> Plan upto Bhuj Rest is not sanctioned.
7. Gauge conversion of Gandhidham-Samakhiail-Palsapur MG line	A survey has been included in 1997-98 budget.	It is not yet sanctioned.
8. Gauge conversion of Dharangadhara -Kuda Salt siding	This work has been included in the Supplementary Budget 97-98. Work is to be executed on cost sharing basis with the Government of Gujarat and Salt Deptt. Govt. of India and will be started as soon as co-sharers come forth with their share of funds.	9 <sup>th</sup> Plan.
9. Gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej	Bharuch-Dahej has been covered in the proposed 3 <sup>rd</sup> line from Ahmedabad to Vitar for which survey report is under finalisation.	The work is not yet sanctioned.
10 Ankleshwar-Rajpipla NG line into BG.	Surveys conducted in the past have revealed inadequate traffic prospects as such we have not been able to consider taking up the work.	The work is not yet sanctioned.

**Introduction of Train**

278. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the passengers from Malabar to Tamil Nadu are put too much extra hardships on routing of Kurla Express through Konkam Railways; and

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to introduce another train from Mangalore to Tamil Nadu to redress the grievances of Malabar passengers bound to Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) 6635/6636 Netravati Express was serving passengers bound for Mumbai, which has been diverted through shorter route. At present, two daily trains viz 6601/6602 Chennai-Mangalore Mail and 6627/6628 West Coast Express are adequately serving the passengers of Malabar region to travel towards Tamil Nadu.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Cases against Defence Personnel in N.E. States

279. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending against defence personnel for rape, murder and violation of human rights in various courts in North Eastern States; and

(b) the number of such personnel punished so far by court of the department for the above mentioned crimes in the North Eastern States, State-wise during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Construction of Kuttipuram-Guruvayur Railway Line

280. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the final location survey and the alignment of the Kuttipuram-Guruvayur railway line (Southern Railway Palakkad Division, Kerala) has been finalised.

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps are being taken to expedite the long-pending construction of the above railway line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guruvayur-Tanur alignment has been selected.

(c) The work was earlier sanctioned as part of the Mangalore-Shoranur doubling project in lieu of Tanur-Shoranur. However since Mangalore-Tanur doubling has been extended to Shoranur, this has now become a new line project for which fresh clearances are required. Survey report is being updated to enable further action in this regard.

#### Survey for Gunupur to Rayagada New Broad Gauge Line

281. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided for survey of new broad gauge line from Gunupur to Rayagada (S.E.Rly.) so far;

(b) whether the techno-economic survey report have already been examined and a decision taken to connect the Gunupur to Rayagada;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) This is not yet a sanctioned work.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Construction of Over Bridge in Kottagudem

282. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for construction of road overbridge in Kottagudem town in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Killings during Anti-Insurgency Operations

283. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of defence personnel killed by insurgents while on duty to maintain internal law and order during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of insurgents killed or apprehended in different States, State-wise by the defence forces during that period ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Statement I and II containing the required information are attached.