

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 324
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024**

**CONSTRUCTION OF CHENNAI BEACH TO CHENNAI EGMORE RAILWAY
LINE**

324. SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the time by which the construction of fourth line between Chennai Beach to Chennai Egmore will be completed as the deadline to complete the project was a period of 7 months starting 27th August, 2023;**
- (b) whether the Government enumerate as to how many passengers in Tiruvallur, Chengalpattu and Velachery suburban sections are affected due to reduction of suburban services (54 services) from 14.07.2023 in the Suburban time table; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard to help the passengers?**

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. 324 BY SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2024 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF CHENNAI BEACH TO CHENNAI EGMORE RAILWAY LINE

(a) to (c): Chennai Beach-Chennai Egmore 4th line (4.3 Km) has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹280 crore. Total outlay of ₹143.6 crore has been provided to the project for Financial Year 2024-25. Total expenditure of ₹167.5 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. Out of total extent of 0.51 Ha land, only 0.33 Ha land has been acquired.

The 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, statutory 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 conditions etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project. With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are covered under Southern Railway (SR), South Central Railway (SCR) and South Western Railway (SWR) zone of Indian Railways.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Budget allocation for infrastructure and safety projects falling fully/ partly in the State of Tamil Nadu has been enhanced to highest at ₹6,362 crore this year which is nearly seven times of the budget allocation of ₹922 crore in 2013-14.

Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in the State of Tamil Nadu is as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹879 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹6,080 crore	nearly 7 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 Tamil Nadu is held up due to delay in land acquisition and only about 807 Ha land has been acquired out of total requirement of about 2749 Ha. Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects. Support of the Government of Tamil Nadu is needed to expedite the land acquisition.

During 2014-24, 1302 km sections (39 km New Line, 456 Km of Gauge Conversion and 807 km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu have been commissioned at an average rate 130.2 km per year.

The delay in land acquisition for construction of the 4.3 km stretch of 4th line between Chennai Beach and Chennai Egmore for completion of the project, is leading to the delay in the restoration of Suburban services on Thiruvalluavar-Velachery-Chegalpattu section.
