

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:729

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000

GAUGE CONVERSION IN KARNATAKA AND MAHARASHTRA

PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;UTTAMRAO NATHUJI DHIKALE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of metre gauge rail lines in Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(b) the details of those metre gauge rail lines for which conversion work was started more than three years ago but remains incomplete;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the above conversion work is likely to be completed ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) The total length (route kilometres) of metre gauge rail lines in Karnataka and Maharashtra are 521 kms. and 500 kms. respectively as on 31.3.1999 (latest available data).

(b) to (d) A statement is attached.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (b) to (d) of Unstarred Question No. 729 by S/Shri G.PuttaSwamy Gowda and Uttamrao Dhikale to be answered in Lok Sabha on 27.07.2000 regarding Gauge conversion in Karnataka and Maharashtra.

(b) to (d) Gauge conversion projects started more than 3 years ago but which remain incomplete are as under :-

1. Mudkhed-Adilabad;
2. Bijapur-Gadag section of Solapur-Gadag project;
3. Secunderabad-Mudkhed and Jankhampet-Bodhan;
4. Shimoga-Talguppa section of Bangalore-Hubli and Birur-Shimoga-Talguppa project;
5. Sakleshpur-Mangalore section of Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore project;
6. Lakshman Tirtha bridge portion of Mysore-Hassan project.

Due to acute constraint of resources, it has not been possible to complete these works so far. However, these works will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources. Gauge conversion of Mudkhed-Adilabad is being executed under BOLT (Build, Own, Lease & Transfer) for which the BOLT contractor has to raise the necessary funds for completing the project.

Lakshman Tirtha bridge portion of Mysore-Hassan project is expected to be completed by 31.3.2001.