

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:338  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002  
GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT  
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Indian Railways propose to develop a golden quadrilateral railway network similar to the one being implemented for the national highway project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the project has been approved by the Planning Commission/ Ministry of Finance;
- (d) if so, the total cost to be incurred on this project;
- (e) whether the three funding agencies, Japan, ADB and World Bank have shown interest in financing the project; and
- (f) if so, the time by which the work on this project is likely to be started?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS(SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 338 BY SHRI IQBAL AHME SARADGI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 12.12.2002 REGARDING GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Railways (MOR) have decided to upgrade the Golden Quadrilateral and its Diagonals which forms the High Density Network (HDN) and is saturated in certain parts, by increasing the line capacity. The Golden Quadrilateral connects the four metro cities i.e. Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai. The strengthening of this route will be done by laying of additional lines, improvement in terminals, electrification of selected sections and raising the speed of freight trains up to 100 kmph, upgradation of signalling and similar input options, thus enhancing the line capacity.

Some of the works already sanctioned have been made a part of this Project. The requisite approvals from Planning Commission/Expanded Board/Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), for these projects, wherever required, have been obtained. In addition, new sub-projects have also been identified. The project reports of these sub-projects are presently under finalisation. Once the reports are finalised, the requisite approvals from Planning Commission/Expanded Board/CCEA will be obtained, wherever required. The total cost of this project is yet to be finalised, however it is expected to be in the range of Rs. 8000 crores.

(e) : Asian Development Bank (ADB) has shown keen interest and a sector loan having a first loan component of US\$313.6 million is in the final stages. World Bank has also shown interest and dialogue has been initiated. Japan has yet to express any specific interest for the Project.

(f): Work on some of the sanctioned components of the Project is in progress.