

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1586  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003  
LAYING OF NEW RAILWAY LINES IN BACKWARD REGIONS  
LAXMAN GILUWA;SHIVAJI MANE

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

- (a) whether the Government have a policy to lay new rail lines in backward regions for their development without considering economical viability;
- (b) if so, the details of the policy in this regard;
- (c) if not, whether rail lines had not been laid in the backward regions during past, due to economical viability only; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) to (d): The new lines are taken up on various criteria including project oriented lines, missing links, strategic reasons and for establishment of new growth centers or giving access to remote areas. Economic and Financial viability of the project are assessed during survey stage. However, based on persistent demands from the people of the area, the elected representatives and State Governments, several new line projects have been taken up in backward and remote areas for socio-economic development.