

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:220
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2000
GAUGE CONVERSION
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have invested huge amount in the Unigauge policy during the last decade;
- (b) if so, the total kilometers which have been brought under Unigauge since 1991;
- (c) the total expenditure incurred thereon;
- (d) whether Railways have derived benefits from the policy; and
- (e) if so, details of additional revenue and operational advantages derived from the implementation of the Unigauge policy ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

- (a) and (c): Railways have invested Rs.7563.95 crores on gauge conversion from 01.04.1989 to 31.03.1999.
- (b): 8717 Km. of track has been converted to BG since 01.04.1991.
- (d): Yes, Sir.
- (e): The advantages derived from execution of gauge conversion projects are in the nature of generation of additional carrying capacity, development of alternative routes and resultant increase in throughput and earnings. This has added to operational flexibility. Some socially desirable but economically non-viable gauge conversion works have been taken up on developmental considerations. However, no separate accounts are maintained for the revenue earned on gauge converted lines.