

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:271

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006

DOUBLING OF RAILWAY LINE FROM NIRGUNDI TO BHUBANESWAR

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pace of work of the doubling of line from Nirgundi to Bhubaneswar is very slow;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the target date set for completion of doubling of this line; and
- (d) the steps taken to expedite the construction of this project?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (d): Between Nergundi and Bhubaneswar, the line is already doubled between Nergundi and Cuttack (barring the segment of 2nd bridge over River Mahanadi) and between Barang and Bhubaneswar. Construction of 2nd bridge over River Mahanadi and doubling of the line from Cuttack to Barang are being executed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) for their speedy completion. Necessary funds are already available with RVNL for progressing these two works satisfactorily. Cuttack-Barang doubling project is being funded partially through the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The finalization of tenders as per the ADB procedures took time. The contracts for major bridges, roadbed, track and overhead electrification works have now been awarded and the substructure of Kuakhai Bridge has been completed. The work of 2nd Mahanadi Bridge is continuing as per schedule. Both the works are likely to be completed during 2008-09.