

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1323  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010  
NEW RAILWAY LINE  
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a) whether the Railways have fixed any criteria for laying new railway lines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether paucity of funds is the main cause for delay in laying the new railway lines;
- (d) if so, whether the Railways propose to resort to public-private partnership mode for laying new railway lines; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1323 BY SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.03.2010 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY LINE

(a) & (b): The policy followed for taking up new line projects was enunciated by the National Transport Policy Committee 1980 and the following criteria was prescribed:

- (i) Project oriented lines to serve new industries for tapping mineral and other resources;
- (ii) Missing links for completing alternative routes to relieve congestion on existing saturated routes;
- (iii) Lines required for strategic reasons; and
- (iv) Lines for establishment of new growth centers or giving access to remote areas.

Besides the above, new lines are also taken up on socio-economic considerations for the speedy development of the economically backward areas.

(c): There is large shelf of new line projects having throwforward of approx. Rs. 50,405 cr. as on 1.4.2009. The projects are progressed as per availability of funds on yearly basis mainly out of the Gross Budgetary Support. Besides, delay in land acquisition, forestry clearance, adverse law and order conditions, contractual failures etc. also lead to delay in completion of projects.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. Public-Private Partnership is one of the possible options for implementation of new line projects.