

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:42
ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010
GAUGE CONVERSION PROJECTS
Meena Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the gauge conversion projects undertaken in different Railway zones during the last three years;
- (b) the funds proposed and actually released for each project so far;
- (c) the status of such projects during the current year; and
- (d) the steps taken to expedite the said projects ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS(KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 42 BY SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH MEENA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.11.2010 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION PROJECTS.

(a) to (c): During last three years and current year, 14 gauge conversion projects have been taken up in different Railway Zones. Details of these projects including expenditure incurred upto 31.03.2010, funds allotted for 2010-11 and present status is placed as Appendix.

(d): Railways have huge throw-forward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources. The projects are progressed as per availability of resources. To expedite completion of projects a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non budgetary measures like Public-Private Partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. Besides, Railways have introduced Railway Infrastructure Investment Initiative (R3i) policy for attracting private sector participation in rail connectivity projects. To reduce delay on account of land availability, security issues, forestry clearances etc. meetings with State Govt./Central Government officials are held from time to time. Contract conditions have been modified to bring efficiency in contract management and field units have been further empowered.