

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:592

ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012

GAUGE CONVERSION

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets set and achieved by the Railways for gauge conversion in the country during the 11th Five Year Plan (FYP), zone/State-wise;
- (b) the total estimated cost initially and the total cost at the time of completion of these projects;
- (c) the details of railway lines proposed for gauge conversion during the 12th FYP, Zone/State-wise; and
- (d) the steps proposed for better and timely execution of the projects to avoid time and cost overruns during the 12th FYP?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 592 BY SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR AND SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.05.2012 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION.

(a) & (b): During Eleventh Five Year Plan i.e. from 2007-08 to 2011-12, a target of 6000 Km was fixed for conversion of Meter Gauge/Narrow Gauge lines into Broad Gauge. Against this, an achievement of 5321 Km has been made by Railways. Zone-wise details of gauge conversion completed during Eleventh Five Year Plan is given as under:-

S. No. Railway Zone Gauge Conversion (in Km)

1	Central	209
2	East Coast	90
3	East Central	277
4	Eastern	40
5	Northern	11
6	North Central	142
7	North Eastern	365
8	Northeast Frontier	652
9	North Western	1342
10	Southern	879
11	South Central	476
12	South Eastern	78
13	South East Central	47
14	South Western	312
15	West Central	0
16	Western	401

Railway have huge throwforward & limited availability of resources as a result projects are completed & commissioned in phases. Cost of project is not maintained section-wise/phase-wise. However, an expenditure of about Rs. 15556 Crore has been incurred on Gauge Conversion projects during 11th Five Year Plan (i.e. between 2007-08 & 2011-12).

(c): The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis based on the availability of resources, operational priority and progress made. As a result, projects get completed in phases. However, zone-wise details of gauge conversion targeted for completion during 2012-13 is as under:-

S. No. Railway Zone Target (In Kms)

1	Central	-
2	East Coast	-

3	East Central	117.6
4	Eastern	8.3
5	Northern	-
6	North Central	-
7	North Eastern	146
8	Northeast Frontier	206
9	North Western	187.67
10	Southern	58
11	South Central	-
12	South Eastern	-
13	South East Central	-
14	South Western	11
15	West Central	-
16	Western	80

(d): To expedite completion of projects, forestry and other clearances have been taken up at highest level. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Governments for providing adequate security at work sites. Empowerment of field units have been taken up to expedite completion of projects.