

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1001
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012
GAUGE CONVERSION
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of gauge conversion work on Sakri-Nirmali-Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Bazar and Saharsa-Forbesganj sections;
- (b) the details of funds allocated/spent thereon so far;
- (c) whether the said gauge conversion work as well as the work of construction of Kosi bridge and other bridges on the said section are pending due to inadequate allocation of funds;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time frame set for the completion of these projects alongwith the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1001 BY SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR AND SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.08.2012 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION.

(a): Earthwork, bridges and track linking work has been taken up. Overall physical progress on Sakri-Laukaha Bazar is 45% & on Saharsa-Forbesganj is 16%.

(b): Expenditure of Rs. 223.5 crore has been incurred on this project till March 2012.

(c) & (d): The Gauge Conversion work is being funded by Ministry of Defence. Kosi & other bridges are progressing as per availability of resources. Railways have huge throwforward of ongoing project with limited availability of resources. As a result, resources are thinly spread.

(e): Saharsa-Saraigarh section of this project is targeted for completion in 2012-13 and Kosi bridge is targeted for completion in 2012-13. Remaining sections of the gauge conversion project are planned to be completed by March, 2016.