

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:18
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
DEDICATED FREIGHT AND HIGH SPEED TRAIN CORRIDORS
Kalmadi Shri Suresh;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the present status of Dedicated Freight and the High Speed Train Corridors in the country, corridor-wise;
- (b) whether the pre-feasibility studies on these projects have been submitted to the Railways;
- (c) if so, the salient points thereof and the time by which final decisions are likely to be taken thereon by the Railways;
- (d) whether the Railways are facing any financial constraints in timely execution of these projects; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard and to complete these projects within a stipulated time frame?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 18 BY SHRI ARJUN MEGHWAL AND SHRI SURESH KALMADI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.11.2012 REGARDING DEDICATED FREIGHT AND HIGH SPEED TRAIN CORRIDORS

(a) to (e): The details regarding Dedicated Freight Corridor Project and High Speed Passenger Corridors are as under:

(i) Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) Project:

Two corridors viz. Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors have been sanctioned and in certain segments construction work is in progress. Eastern DFC is 1839 km long and extends from Dankuni near Kolkata to Ludhiana in Punjab and Western DFC is 1499 km long and extends from Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai to Tughlakabad/Dadri near Delhi.

Further, Pre Feasibility studies for the North – South DFC (Delhi – Chennai), East– West DFC (Howrah - Mumbai), Southern DFC (Chennai – Goa) and East – Coast DFC (Kharagpur – Vijayawada) have been completed and Preliminary Engineering cum Traffic Survey for these four Corridors have been taken up. It has also been decided to undertake Prefeasibility Study of the Chennai – Bangalore DFC.

The Eastern and Western DFC project has been planned to be implemented through a mix of debt from World Bank and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), budgetary support and Public Private Partnership. The project is targeted for commissioning in March 2017.

(ii) High Speed Passenger Corridors:

Seven corridors have been identified for conducting pre feasibility studies. These are Pune – Mumbai - Ahmedabad, Delhi –Agra– Lucknow –Varanasi – Patna, Howrah - Haldia, Hyderabad- Dornakal - Vijaywada – Chennai, Chennai–Bangalore – Coimbatore – Ernakulam - Thiruvananthapuram, Delhi - Jaipur- Ajmer-Jodhpur, Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar. Out of these seven corridors, final Report has been submitted for three corridors i.e. (i) Pune – Mumbai - Ahmedabad,(ii) Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi-Patna and (iii) Howrah-Haldia corridors. These projects would involve advanced technologies for construction & operation and would be highly capital intensive.

An Inter-Ministerial project steering group has been formed to examine the options available to implement the High Speed Passenger Corridor project of Mumbai – Ahmedabad and suggest mechanisms for implementation. High Speed projects would require substantial Government support, soft loans and innovative financing mechanisms. So far, no funding options or completion targets have been finalised.