

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:99  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012  
REVIEW OF OLD PROJECTS  
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) whether the Railways propose to review all old projects particularly those which are more than 15-year old;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such projects pending for the last 15 years in the country, along with the reasons therefor, zone-wise;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Railways in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Railways have curtailed some powers of the Zonal Railways regarding sanctioning of various projects and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(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. 99 BY SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN AND SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 29.11.2012 REGARDING REVIEW OF OLD PROJECTS

(a) to (c): All railway projects including older than 15 years are reviewed periodically at various levels. Zone-wise number of new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects ongoing for more than 15 years is appended.

As on 01.04.2012, Railways have 347 ongoing projects under New Lines, Gauge Conversions and Doubling having a throwforward of about 1.47 Lakh Crore with limited availability of resources. As a result, projects have long gestation period. Apart from limited availability of resources, following factors also contribute to delay in execution of projects:-

- (i) Delays in land acquisition and forestry clearances;
- (ii) Adverse law & order condition and other market forces;
- (iii) Failure of contracts;

To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries, execution of projects through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited on Special Purpose Vehicle basis, etc.

Efforts made by Railways have started giving results. On the request of railway, 10 State Governments have come forward for sharing cost of 4760 Km of projects. 5 projects have been taken up with participation of industry/stakeholders.

Besides, to reduce delays on account of land acquisition, security issues and forestry clearances, etc meetings with State Officials at various levels are held from time to time. Field units have been empowered with further delegation of powers and the contract conditions have been modified to bring efficiency in contract management. Security, land acquisition and environment issues are also taken up with State Governments and Ministry of Environment & Forest for early approvals.

(d): No, Madam.