

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2175

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013

APPROVAL OF RAILWAY PROJECTS

Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Upadhyay Seema;Vardhan Shri Harsh

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

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided to grant in- principle approval to the new railway line proposals of only those states which provide land free of cost and share 50 percent of the cost of construction from 2013-14 onward;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether proposals of many states are pending on account of this and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether States have been consulted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the States in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA)

(a) & (b): The guidelines issued by the Planning Commission for grant of In-principle Approval (IPA) for Railway projects during the 12th Five Year Plan in August 2013 stipulate that for new projects to be undertaken by the Ministry of Railways in partnership with State Governments, a suitable scheme may be devised to be applicable to State/UT Governments indicating commitment of land and funding to be made available by the State. There are no specific stipulations for provision of land and funding by State in these guidelines.

(c) to (e) According to available information, there are 37 Railway projects that have already been sanctioned in partnership with various State Governments and these are presently at various stages of implementation with different commitments for funding and provision of land as decided after consultations. So far as new and prospective projects in partnership with State Governments are concerned, the extant guidelines clearly state that the commitment of the stakeholders shall be in the form of a prescribed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) after due consultations.