

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2477

ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014

NEW RAILWAY LINE PROJECTS

Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Upadhyay Seema;Vardhan Shri Harsh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the present status of new railway line projects announced in the Railway Budget 2013-14;
- (b) whether the Railways are unable to implement all these new line projects due to financial constraints and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways for implementation of those new line projects for which pre-conditions of cost sharing/free land have not been agreed to by the concerned State Governments;
- (d) whether in view of the financial constraint the Railways propose not to announce more new line projects for next few years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(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. 2477 BY SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI, SHRI HARSH VARDHAN AND SHRIMATI SEEMA UPADHYAY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.02.2014 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY LINE PROJECTS.

(a): 25 new line projects were included in the Railway Budget 2013-14 at a cost of `23,048.23 Crores. Out of these, preliminary works have been taken up in 3 projects. For the remaining 22 new line projects which were included in the Budget pending approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs and Planning Commission have not been taken up.

(b): Financial constraint is one of the greatest impediments for execution of all these new line projects. Therefore Projects are progressing as per availability of resources. Targets are fixed every year depending upon availability of resources and progress of individual projects. 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, raising of funds through market borrowing etc. 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.

(c): Projects for which pre-conditions of cost sharing/free land have not been agreed to by the concerned State Governments can be taken up only after the conditions are met.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Does not arise.