

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1978
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015
GAUGE CONVERSION WORK
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have started the gauge conversion work in the State of Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken by the Railways in this regard; and
- (e) the total amount incurred by the Railways for gauge conversion of railway lines in the State of Kerala during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(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. 1978 BY SHRI ANTO ANTONY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.03.2015 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION WORK.

(a) to (e): Two gauge conversion projects falling partly in the State of Kerala have been taken up and their details are as under:-

(1) Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur & Tenkasi-Virudhunagar gauge conversion project:- On this project, Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur (61 Km), Tirunelveli-Tenkasi-Bhagvatipuram (86 Km), Virudhunagar-Tenkasi (122 Km) and Quilon-Edamann (52 Km) sections i.e. a total of 321 Km out of 357 Km have been completed. On balance portion i.e. Bhagvatipuram-New Ariyankavu- Edamann (36 Km), earthwork, bridges and tunneling works have been taken up. However, this being a ghat section involving tunnels & deep cuttings, the progress of work is slow as compared to normal section.

Outlays of ` 75 crore, ` 52 crore, ` 20 crore and ` 65 crore have been allotted to this project in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively.

(2) Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat & Pollachi-Coimbatore (225 Km) gauge conversion project:- On this project, Dindigul-Pollachi (121 Km) and Coimbatore-Podanur (6 Km) sections have already been completed. Track linking in Pollachi-Palakkad (58 Km) has been completed and that in the balance portion have been taken up.

Outlays of 150 crore, 70 crore, 100 crore and ` 133 crore have been allotted to this project in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively.