

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4628
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014
SOCIALLY DESIRABLE PROJECTS IN RAILWAYS
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.; Tamta Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways propose to implement certain socially desirable projects connecting backward areas overlooking the commercial considerations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such projects undertaken by the Ministry, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Haridwar-Kotdwar-Ramnagar rail line in the State of Uttarakhand was identified as socially desirable project; and
- (d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4628 BY SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA AND SHRI AJAY TAMTA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.12.2014 REGARDING SOCIALLY DESIRABLE PROJECTS IN RAILWAYS

(a): Railways have already taken up 169 socially desirable new line & gauge conversion projects. These projects do not give benchmark return but have been taken up to provide connectivity to backward and underdeveloped areas.

(b): As most of the above projects straddle over more than one State, State-wise data is not maintained. However, Zone-wise details of socially desirable projects taken up are as under:-

S. Railway Zone New Line Gauge
No. Conversion

1	Central	4	0
2	East Coast	2	0
3	East Central	24	4
4	Eastern	11	1
5	North Central	3	1
6	North Eastern	7	5
7	Northeast Frontier	19	5
8	Northern	17	0
9	North Western	4	3
10	South Central	11	0
11	South East Central	2	4
12	South Eastern	5	3
13	Southern	7	5
14	South Western	12	1
15	West Central	2	0
16	Western	2	5

(c) & (d): Survey for Haridwar-Kotdwar-Ramnagar new line has been completed. Cost of the project has been assessed at Rs.1246 crore with a negative rate of return of 6%. Though the project is socially desirable, the unremunerative nature of the project, huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of funds preclude taking up of this project.