

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4640

ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014

GROWTH RATE IN RAILWAYS

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Udasi Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have fixed any target to complete ongoing projects for achieving the targeted growth rate in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds likely to be required in this regard;
- (c) whether the Railways has taken a decision to make railway lines areas available in most backward areas of the country in order to promote tourism in these areas;
- (d) if so, the details of such backward areas where railway lines are proposed to be laid, State/ Zone-wise;
- (e) whether any initiative has been taken to mobilise funds for achieving the target of railway development; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Railways have a large shelf of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of funds. As a result, it is not possible to provide adequate funds to all the ongoing projects on a regular basis, which is a prerequisite for fixing timelines. The major projects consisting of new lines, gauge conversion and doubling alone need about Rs. 1.82 Crores as on 01.04.2014.

(c) & (d): No mandate is available to Railways to lay railway lines in most backward areas to promote tourism. However, a large number of new railway lines which are financially unviable have been taken up on socio-economic considerations to connect backward areas.

(e) & (f): State Governments have been requested to partner with the Railways to form special purpose vehicles to mobilise resources for expeditious completion of Railway projects.