

Regarding need to expedite completion of Phase III Railway Tunnel Project at Maharashtra ? Madhya Pradesh Border-Laid

SHRI ANUP SANJAY DHOTRE (AKOLA): I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon?ble Railway Minister to the delay in Phase III (Akot?Amalkhurd?106.39 km) of the Akola?Khandwa broad gauge conversion project, approved in 2018?19 at a cost of ₹2883.30 crore. While Phase I (Akola?Akot) and Phase II (Amalkhurd?Khandwa) are completed, Phase III-which includes a 6.8 km tunnel at the Maharashtra?Madhya Pradesh border-is still pending. This is affecting connectivity between Vidarbha (Maharashtra) and Madhya Pradesh. I request the Hon?ble Minister to provide the current status of Phase III and the tunnel; clarify if land acquisition is pending in any section; share any cost escalation due to the delay; explain the financial impact if the project is further delayed; and ensure fast-track execution with adequate resource allocation. Timely completion will significantly benefit regional connectivity and economic development.