

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 512
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025**

SHORNUR- MANGALORE RAILWAY LINE

**512. SHRI SHAFI PARAMBIL:
SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish third and fourth Railway lines in between Trivandrum and Mangalore segment under Trivandrum and Palakkad division particularly Shornur of Southern Railway;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof including timeframe and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the inadequacy of the railway infrastructure in Kerala which is unable to cope with the increasing demands of the passengers in North Kerala;**
- (d) if so, the tentative dates of starting the project;**
- (e) whether the Government plans to introduce Namo Bharat Rapid Rail service in Kerala; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (f): The Government of India is working diligently to strengthen the railway network in Kerala. To strengthen the railway network

passing through Kerala, the following surveys have been sanctioned:

SN	Route	Length
1	Mangaluru – Shoranur 3rd & 4th Line	308 Km
2	Shoranur – Coimbatore 3rd & 4th Line	99 Km
3	Shoranur – Ernakulam 3rd Line	107 Km
4	Ernakulam - Kayankulam 3rd Line	115 Km
5	Kayankulam - Thiruvananthapuram 3rd Line	105 Km
6	Thiruvananthapuram – Nagercoil 3rd Line	71 Km

Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/UT wise/District wise as the Railway projects may span across State/UT/District boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

After firming up of Detailed Project Report (DPR), sanctioning of project requires consultation with various stake-holders including State Governments and necessary approvals viz. appraisal of NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance etc. As sanctioning of projects is a continuous and dynamic process, exact timelines cannot be fixed.

As on 01.04.2025, 06 projects (02 new lines, and 04 Doubling) of total length of 266 Km, costing ₹9,415 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which 26 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,250 crore has been incurred upto March, 2025. The summary is as under:-

Category	No. of projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned (in Km)	Expenditure upto March 2025 (₹ in Cr.)
New Line	2	146	0	309
Doubling/ Multitracking	4	120	26	2,941
Total	6	266	26	3,250

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are held up due to delay in land acquisition. Status of land acquisition in the State of Kerala is as under:

Total Land required for Projects in Kerala	476 Ha
Land Acquired	73 Ha (15%)
Balance Land to be acquired	403 Ha (85%)

Government of India is geared up to execute projects, however success depends upon the support of Government of Kerala. Railway had deposited ₹2112 crore for land acquisition to Government of Kerala. Support of the Government of Kerala is needed to expedite the land acquisition. For instance, details of some major projects

which are delayed due to land acquisition are as under:-

SN	Name of the project	Total land required (in Ha)	Land acquired (in Ha)	Balance Land to be acquired (in Ha)
1.	Angamali - Sabarimala new line (111 Km)	416	24	392
2.	Ernakulam – Kumbalam Patch Doubling (8 Km)	4	3	1
3.	Kumbalam - Turavur Patch Doubling (16 Km)	10	9	1
4.	Trivandrum – Kanyakumari Doubling (87 Km)	41	36	5
5.	Shoranur – Vallathol Doubling (10 Km)	5	0	5

Railway network straddles across State boundaries. Accordingly, trains are introduced across such boundaries as per network requirement. Presently, 04 Namo Bharat Rapid Rail train services are being operated on Indian Railway network. Further, during the period 2022-23 and 2024-25 (till June, 2025), 10 new train services including 04 Vande Bharat train services (on originating/ terminating basis) have been introduced, serving various stations located in the State of Kerala. Besides, introduction of train services including Namo Bharat Rapid Rail train service is an on-going process on Indian Railways, subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc.
