

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2140  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2025**

**BETTER CONNECTIVITY FOR KARGIL**

**2140. SHRI MOHMAD HANEEFA:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to conduct a survey very shortly for connecting Ganderbal in Kashmir with Kargil, keeping in view that Kargil district of Ladakh UT is strategically located from defence point of view and there is an urgent need to connect it with the rest of the country; and**
- (b) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) and (b) : Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/Union Territory -wise/District-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State/Union Territory/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.**

**Survey of Srinagar-Kargil-Leh (480 km) new rail line was carried out in 2016-17. As per Survey report the anticipated cost of the project was ₹55,896 crores. However, due to low traffic projections, the project could not be taken forward.**

**Bilaspur-Manali-Leh New Line falling partly in UT of Ladakh is identified as strategic line by Ministry of Defence. Survey of Bilaspur-Manali-Leh new line project (489 km) has been completed and Detailed Project Report has been prepared. Anticipated cost of the project as per Detailed Project Report is ₹1,31,000 crore.**

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