

Regarding need to expedite completion of Murtizapur-Achalpur and Murtizapur-Yavatmal Gauge Conversion (Shakuntala Railway) Project in Maharashtra- Laid

SHRI ANUP SANJAY DHOTRE (AKOLA): The MurtizapurAchalpur and MurtizapurYavatmal Gauge Conversion (Shakuntala Railway) project is presently progressing, with the Final Location Survey (FLS) underway. The targeted date for submission of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been set for August 2025. In this context, the project now requires accelerated progress on key components such as track strengthening, bridge rehabilitation, signalling upgrades, and redevelopment of stations along the MurtizapurDaryapurAnjangaon SurjiGhatanjiArviYavatmal corridor. Timely completion of these works, along with the required safety inspections and commissioning approvals, will enable the early commencement of passenger service operations. Restoring this line will greatly enhance mobility for rural populations, support agricultural transportparticularly for cotton, soybean, and turand improve regional integration. It also holds the potential to connect seamlessly with major infrastructure such as the Samruddhi Mahamarg and the WardhaYavatmalNanded railway line, thereby strengthening Vidarbhas overall transport network. I request the Government to prioritise these next-phase activities and expedite the launch of passenger services for the benefit of the people of the region.