

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3384

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003

MANGALORE-HASSAN RAIL LINK

VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether while embarking on uni-gauge conversion of the existing metre-gauge lines in mid-nineties, the Government had set deadlines for restoration of traffic on dismantled lines;
- (b) whether Mangalore-Hassan link was taken up for gauge conversion with a definite time frame for completion;
- (c) whether there has been undue delay in completion of the project thereby prolonging the agony and miseries of the people of the region for want of connectivity;
- (d) whether the Government abandon new projects until old and on-going projects are completed; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

- (a): No such dead line was fixed. However, the traffic on the metre-gauge/narrow gauge lines, dismantled during conversion, is to be restored in a reasonable period after conversion into broad gauge.
- (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. However, the work could not be completed as the funds under gauge conversion plan head got reduced due to lesser availability of resources.
- (d) & (e): In view of large shelf of ongoing projects and limited availability of resources, it may, normally, not be feasible to take up new projects.