

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3415
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2005
SURVEY OF NEW RAILWAY LINES
Kaswan Shri Ram Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals for new railway lines included in the Railway Budget for the year 2004-05 for the purpose of conducting survey;
- (b) the stipulated time period to complete the survey work of these new railway lines;
- (c) the criteria prescribed to approve new railway lines after the survey is completed;
- (d) whether the survey of new railway line from Sikar to Nokha via Salasar, Sujangarh, Bidasar and from Sardarshahar to Hanumangarh and from Churu to Nohar via Taranagar is under the consideration of the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (f): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3415 BY SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 15.12.2005 REGARDING SURVEY OF NEW RAILWAY LINES.

(a) & (b): 41 surveys for New Lines have been included in the Budget 2004-05. All the surveys are targeted for completion during 2005-06.

(c) : The policy for taking up new line projects was enunciated by the National Transport Policy Committee in 1980. This policy states that new lines would be taken up on the following criteria:

(i) Project oriented lines to serve new industries for tapping mineral and other resources.

(ii) Missing links for completing alternative routes.

(iii) Lines required for strategic reasons; and

(iv) Lines for establishment of new growth centers or giving access to remote areas. Apart from this, the financial viability of the project is also taken into consideration. As per extant norms, a project is considered financially justified if it yields a return of not less than 14% under Discounted Cash Flow Method.

(d) to (f): No, Sir. However, survey for new lines from Nokha to Sikar, Churu to Taranagar and Hanumangarh-Sardarshahar-Ratangarh had been conducted in the past. The proposed new lines could not be taken up due to unremunerative nature, constraint of resources and huge throwforward of on-going projects.