

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4251
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004
ADB LOAN FOR RAILWAY SECTOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME
Chaliha Shri Kirip

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to invest approximately one billion dollar for the Railway Sector Improvement Programme;
- (b) if so, the details of Programmes/Projects proposed to be undertaken;
- (c) whether the action plan has been finalised by the Indian Railways; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4251 BY SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.08.2004 REGARDING ADB LOAN FOR RAILWAY SECTOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

(a): Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to extend an assistance for the railway sector in 3 phases, with the quantum in the first 2 phases amounting to around US Dollar 600 million. In Phase-I, a loan amount of US Dollar 313.6 million has been approved.

(b) to (d): The objective of the assistance is to improve the performance of the railway sector by (i) financing priority investments to overcome railway capacity bottlenecks and improve operational efficiency/safety and (ii) supporting implementation of a program of reforms formulated by the Ministry of Railways (MOR) to improve Indian Railway's commercial orientation. Projects pertaining to removal of capacity bottlenecks in critical sections of the railway network and strengthening of rail connectivity to ports/development of multi-modal corridors to hinterland, have been identified for funding under this loan. A Special Purpose Vehicle, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) has been set up to implement these projects. Presently, the following projects have been appraised by ADB:

- Gooty-Pullampeta Doubling
- Keonjhar-Tomka of Daitari Banspani New Rail Link
- Mahanadi second bridge.
- Bhatapara-Urkura of Bilaspur-Urkura Third Line