

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:20  
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009  
HUBLI -ANKOLA RAIL LINE  
Shantha J.

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

- (a) whether the Railways have any plan for new Railway line between Hubli and Ankola section in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, whether Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has given clearance only upto Kalaghatagi;
- (c) if so, the status of the said proposal at present; and
- (d) the time by which the said rail line is likely to be started and completed?

**Answer**

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MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS ( SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA )

(a): The work of new line from Hubli to Ankola was taken up in the Budget 1997-98 and land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works have been taken up on Hubli-Kirvatti section.

(b) to (d): The Central Empowered Committee (CEC), constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court is hearing a Public Interest Litigation case regarding transfer of Forest Land for this project. As per CEC directions, work on the project has been stopped. Further action on this project would be taken only after the decision of CEC is received.