

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1737
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2025**

NUMBER OF RAILWAY ZONES IN KARNATAKA

1737. SHRI G KUMAR NAIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of railway zones in the country and the railway density in each zone, State/UT-wise;**
- (b) the railway density in Karnataka, district-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has a policy that defines the minimum railway density required to adequately meet public transportation needs and support economic growth and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the existing railway density is sufficient to meet the needs of the people and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the details of any schemes/initiatives proposed by the Government to enhance railway density in Karnataka?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) : There are 17 Railway Zones operational (including Metro Railway, Kolkata) in the country. Further, foundation stone of new South Coast Railway (SCoR) zone has been laid recently.

The details of Zonal Railway wise route km is given below: -

S.No.	Railway	Route Km. (as on 31.03.2025)
1	Central	4353
2	Eastern	2855
3	East Central	4400
4	East Coast	3162
5	Northern	7477
6	North Central	3518
7	North Eastern	3494
8	Northeast Frontier	4412
9	North Western	5613
10	Southern	5104
11	South Central	6637
12	South Eastern	2749
13	South East Central	2448
14	South Western	3711
15	Western	6284
16	West Central	3177
17	Metro, Kolkata	45
	Total	69,439

The new SCoR zone is in the process of setting up.

Railway network in any area depends upon the population density of that area, terrain, geographical features, etc. Therefore, Railway density varies from region to region.

The rail infrastructure augmentation plan inter-alia focuses on the network capacity enhancement, removal of bottlenecks, increasing average speed of freight trains, reduction in cargo transit time and cost. Further, to improve capacity of existing network, several capacity enhancement/augmentation survey/works have been sanctioned by railways. These works include multi tracking, rail flyovers, by pass lines, yard remodelling works etc.

Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/District wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throw forward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

As on 01.04.2025, across Indian Railways, 431 Railway infrastructure projects (154 New Line, 33 Gauge Conversion and 244 Doubling) of total length 35,966 Km, costing approx. ₹6.75 lakh crore are sanctioned. The summary is as under: -

Category	No of Projects	Total Length NL/GC/DL (km)	Length Commissioned till Mar'25 (km)	Total Exp upto Mar'25 (₹ in Cr)
New Lines	154	16,142	3,036	1,45,318
Gauge Conversion	33	4,180	2,997	22,753
Doubling / Multitracking	244	15,644	6,736	1,22,858
Total	431	35,966	12,769	2,90,929

Zone-wise/year-wise details of all Railway projects are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

The details of commissioning / laying of new track across Indian Railways is given below: -

Period	New track Commissioned	Average commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	7,599 Km	4.2 Km/day
2014-25	34,428 Km	8.57 Km/day (more than 2 times)

Karnataka: -

Budget allocation in the recent years has increased significantly. Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka is as under:

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹835 crore/year
2025-26	₹7,564 crore (more than 9 times)

As on 01.04.2025, 25 projects (15 new lines, 10 doubling) of 3,264 km length, costing ₹42,517 crore falling fully/partly in Karnataka are sanctioned. The summary is as under: -

Category	No of sanctioned Projects	Total Length (in km)	Length Commissioned Upto Mar'25 (km)	Exp upto Mar'25 (₹ in cr.)
New Line	15	2,034	421	8,794
Doubling/ Multitracking	10	1,230	973	12,516
Total	25	3,264	1,394	21,310

Details of some of the recently completed projects falling fully/partly in Karnataka are as under: -

S.No	Project	Cost (₹in Crores)
1	Kottur-Harihar new line (65 km)	468
2	Hassan-Bangalore new line (167 km)	1,290
3	Bidar-Gulbarga new line (110 km)	1,543
4	Shivani-Hosadurga Road doubling (10 km)	50
5	Shivani-Birur doubling (29 km)	143
6	Hosadurga-Chikjajur doubling (29 km)	260
7	Ramanagram-Mysore patch doubling (94 km)	998
8	Yelahanka – Chennasadra doubling (13 km)	108
9	Yeshwantpur-Yelahanka doubling (12 km)	95
10	Netrawati-Mangalore Central doubling (2 km)	28

11	Kankanadi-Panambur doubling (19 km)	350
12	Arsikere-Tumkur doubling (96 km)	758
13	Yelahanka-Penukonda doubling (123 km)	1,104
14	Daund-Gulbarga doubling (225 km)	3,182
15	Hubli-Chikjajur doubling (190 km)	1,850

Some of the projects falling fully/partly in Karnataka which have been taken up are as under: -

S No.	Project	Cost (₹in Crores)
1	Hospet-Hubli-Londa-Vasco-de-Gama doubling (312 km)	4,153
2	Hotgi-Gadag doubling (284 km)	2,459
3	Ginigera - Raichur new line (165 km)	3,401
4	Gadag - Wadi new line (257 km)	2,842
5	Bagalkot – Kudachi new line (142 km)	1,649
6	Tumkur – Rayadurga new line (207 km)	2,496
7	Tumkur – Davangere new line (182 km)	2,142
8	Kadur – Chikmagalur – Belur new line (68 km)	825
9	Baiyyapanahalli – Hosur doubling (48 km)	336
10	Yeshwanthpur – Channasandra doubling (22 km)	314

In last three years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and current financial year 2025-26, 65 surveys (25 new line and 40 doubling) covering a total length of 7,239 km has been sanctioned falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka.

Details of some major projects which are delayed due to land acquisition are as under: -

S No.	Project	Total Land required (in Ha)	Land acquired (in Ha)	Balance Land to be acquired (in Ha)
1	Shimoga –Rannebennur new line (96 km)	559	226	333
2	Belgaum – Dharwad new line (73 km)	581	0	581
3	Shimoga – Harihar new line (79 km)	488	0	488
4	Whitefield-Kolar new line (53 km)	337	0	337
5	Hassan-Belur new line (32 km)	206	0	206

Summary of the status of land acquisition in Karnataka is as under:-

Total Land required for Projects in Karnataka	9,020 Ha
Land Acquired	5,679 Ha (63%)
Balance Land to be acquired	3,341 Ha (37%)

Government of India is geared up to execute projects, however success depends upon the support of Government of Karnataka.

Sanction of any railway project depend upon many parameters/factors which include the following:

- **Anticipated traffic projections and remunerativeness of the proposed route**
- **First and last mile connectivity provided by the project**
- **Connection of missing links and providing additional route**
- **Augmentation of congested/saturated lines**
- **Demands raised by State Governments/Central Ministries/Public representatives,**

- **Railway's own operational requirements**
- **Socio-economic considerations**
- **Overall availability of funds**

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors which include the following:

- **Land acquisition by State Government**
- **Forest clearance**
- **Shifting of infringing utilities**
- **Statutory clearances from various authorities**
- **Geological and topographical conditions of area**
- **Law and order situation in the area of project site**
- **Number of working months in a year for particular project site etc.**

All these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project/s.
