

Cabinet approves ₹18,000 cr rail line to connect Indore & Manmad

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The Union Cabinet on Monday approved a 309-km-long rail line project, pegged at an estimated cost of over ₹18,000 crore, connecting Indore and Manmad.

The project will not only connect the commercial hubs of Mumbai and Indore but will also provide the shortest rail route between them.

TO TAKE SEVEN YEARS

The new line will be passing through two districts in Maharashtra — Nashik and Dhule — and four districts in Madhya Pradesh — Barwani, Khargone, Dhar and Indore. The project is expected to be completed in seven to eight years.

“The line between Indore and Manmad will provide direct connectivity and improve mobility, enhance efficiency and service reliability for Indian Railways,” said Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways.

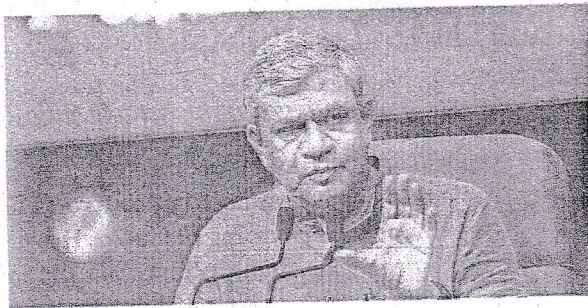
He said, the project is result of PM-Gati Shakti. National Master Plan for multimodal connectivity, and has been possible through integrated planning.

It will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services, he added.

Once the Manmad-Indore line is completed, it will provide direct connectivity from the JNPA port and other ports to Pithampur Auto Cluster, which houses 90 large units and 700 small and medium industries, the Minister said.

“Project will also provide direct connectivity to millet producing districts of Madhya Pradesh and onion producing districts of Maharashtra which further facilitates in the distribution of the same to northern and southern parts of the country,” Vaishnaw said.

The Indore-Manmad rail



EXPANDING NETWORK. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw at a press conference in New Delhi, Monday PTI

line project will see construction of 30 new stations while enhancing connectivity to the aspirational district of Barwani. The project will also include the construction of 21-km-long tunnel and seven large bridges.

Transportation of commodities such as agriculture products, fertilizer, contain-

ers, iron ore, steel, cement and POL (petroleum, oil and lubricants) will also get a boost post the project materialising. The capacity augmentation work is expected to add 26 million tonnes of freight traffic per annum, reduce oil imports by 18 crore litres, and lower CO₂ emissions by 138 crore kg.