GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 469
ANSWERED ON 04.02.2022

NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS IN ASSAM AND NER

469. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry decided to go for new railway projects in Assam and North Eastern Region (NER);

(b) the current status of ongoing railway projects in NER with special reference to Assam;

(c) the total budget allotted by the Ministry for Assam and NER; and

(d) whether there is any plan of Ministry for completing all the pending projects of Assam and NER in a time bound manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 469 BY SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 04.02.2022 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS IN ASSAM AND NER

(a) to (c): Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise, as Indian Railway's projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2021, 20 projects costing ₹74,485 crore for 2,011 km length falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region including Assam are under different stages of planning/ approval/ execution, out of which 321 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹26,874 crore incurred upto March, 2021. These include-

(i) 14 New Line Projects covering a length of 1,181 km at a cost of ₹56,553 crore, out of which 253 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹23,994 crore incurred upto March, 2021.

(ii) 6 Doubling/ Multitracking Projects covering a length of 830 km at a cost of ₹17,932 crore, out of which 68 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹2,880 crore incurred upto March, 2021.

Assam falls in Northeast Frontier Railway Zone. Details of ongoing Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) >Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year)> Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

Indian Railways are giving more emphasis for completion of ongoing Railway projects. Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in budget allotment for infrastructure projects. Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹5,531 crore per year from ₹2,122 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 161% more than average annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹4,909 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (131% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹4,669 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (120% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2021-22, highest ever budget outlay of ₹7,292 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 244% more than the average annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹2,122 crore per year).

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During 2009-14, 333 km sections (66 km New Line, 257 km Gauge conversion and 10 km Doubling) falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region including Assam have been commissioned at an average rate 66.6 km per year.

During 2014-21, 1356 km sections (270 km of New Line, 972 km of Gauge Conversion and 114 km Doubling) falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region including Assam have been commissioned at an average rate 193.71 km per year, which is 191% more than commissioning during 2009-14 (66.6 km per year).

(d): The completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project/s site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic considerations etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project/s. Nevertheless, every effort is being made to execute the projects expeditiously.

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