

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 211
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2022

RAILWAY ROUTES ANNOUNCED FOR PUNJAB

211 DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway routes announced by Government during the last three years, especially for Punjab;
- (b) the number of railway routes for which work has been completed;
- (c) the number of railway routes for which work is pending along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has released the required funds by increasing the budget for the early completion of these routes, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government for demarcation of the proposed land for these projects and the details of amount of funds allocated under the project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 211 BY DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 05.08.2022 REGARDING RAILWAY ROUTES ANNOUNCED FOR PUNJAB

(a): The Railway projects are sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. In the last three years i.e. FY 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and the current Financial year, 51 projects (10 New Line, 9 Gauge conversion and 32 Doubling) of total length 2178 km costing ₹29,734 crore have been sanctioned across Indian Railways which includes 2 Doubling projects of total length of 28 km costing ₹264 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Punjab.

(b) to (e): As on 01.04.2022, across Indian Railways, 452 Railway projects (183 New Line, 42 Gauge Conversion and 227 Doubling) of total length 49,323 Km, costing approx. ₹7.33 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution, out of which, 11,518 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.35 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Punjab:

As on 01.04.2022, 12 railway projects (06 New line and 06 Doubling) of total length 1,570 km, costing ₹23,810 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of Punjab are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution, out of which, 159 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4,439 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Railway infrastructure projects in the State of Punjab are covered under Northern Railway (NR) and North Western Railway (NWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of 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.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of Infrastructure projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in the State of Punjab, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹1,004 crore per year from ₹225 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 346% more than Average Annual Budget allocation

during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹1,095 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (387% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹1,565 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (596% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹2,262 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (905% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever budget outlay of ₹3,543 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 1475% more than the Average Annual Budget outlay of 2009-14 (₹225 crore per year).

Following important projects falling fully/partly in State of Punjab have been completed:-

Ambala - Chandigarh Doubling (45 Km), Mansa - Bhatinda Doubling (49 Km), Jalandhar-Pathankot-Jammu Doubling including important bridge over Ravi (211 Km), Nangal Dam – Daulatpur Chowk New Line (61 Km).

The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of projects, 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 conditions etc. and all these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project(s). With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

For Railway Projects, railways acquire land through district authorities of concerned State. Land acquisition and its demarcation is done by Revenue Authorities of State Government. Compensation for land acquired by the Railways is deposited with concerned State Government. Railways is closely and regularly following up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition/demarcation for Infrastructure projects.
