

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 443
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

REPAIR OF LUMDING-SILCHAR RAILWAY SECTION

443 SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recurring expenditure is incurred in repairing Lumding Silchar section of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR);
- (b) if so, details of such expenditure incurred till date, year-wise;
- (c) whether Railway Board studied the reasons for repeated repairing works year after year without finding a permanent solution;
- (d) whether the Lumding Silchar gauge converted section was opened for passenger traffic without the technical certification of Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS); and
- (e) the amount of expenditure incurred in the gauge conversion of this section as against the initial project cost?

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 UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 443 BY SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 09.12.2022 REGARDING REPAIR OF LUMDING-SILCHAR RAILWAY SECTION

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The year-wise details of expenditure incurred in repairing Lumding-Silchar Section are as under:

Year	Expenditure incurred (₹ In Crores)
2015-16	NIL
2016-17	NIL
2017-18	NIL
2018-19	1.82
2019-20	2.16
2020-21	16.50
2021-22	0.75
2022-23 (upto 28.11.2022)	108.71

(c) Yes, Sir. The geo-topography of Lumding-Silchar section is quite difficult and vulnerable to landslides/sinkage of track. During execution stage, various technical experts viz. RDSO, IIT-Guwahati, IIT-Kanpur, IISc-Bengaluru, STUP Consultants and NIT-Silchar were engaged in gauge conversion project and works were carried out according to their recommendations. Further, GC-RITES Pvt Ltd was engaged in 2016 to carry out detailed studies and instrumentation in the section, which has recommended remedial measures for improvement of 31 locations vulnerable to land slide/sinkage of track in hill section of Lumding- Badarpur in 2018.

(d) Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) inspection was conducted for Lumding-Silcher Gauge Conversion section from 19.03.2015 to 21.03.2015 and from 22.06.2015 to 23.06.2015. After receipt of observations of CRS, 04 members team of Executive Directors from Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) was nominated by Railway Board for inspection of vulnerable locations and to certify the preparation of running of passenger trains.

After receipt of report of the technical team, a safety certificate was issued by General Manager/Northeast Frontier Railway and General Manager/Northeast Frontier Railway (Con.) jointly after compliance of items observed during CRS inspection before running of passenger trains.

(e) Lumding-Silcher Gauge Conversion project (292 km) was sanctioned in 1996-97 at a cost of ₹ 648 Crore. Cost of the project was revised to ₹ 5187.76 Crore in January 2016. An expenditure of ₹ 7832.08 Crore has been incurred so far.