GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.475 ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

TALCHER-BIMLAGARH NEW RAILWAY PROJECT

475 DR. PRASHANTA NANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Talcher-Bimlagarh new railway project;
- (b) the details of budgetary allocation and expenditure made in last five years, year-wise;
- (c) whether Railways have any plan to start construction of this project from Bimlagarh side; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 475 BY DR. PRASHANTA NANDA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 09.12.2022 REGARDING TALCHER-BIMLAGARH NEW RAILWAY PROJECT

- (a): Railway has taken up the work of Talcher-Bimlagarh (150 km) New Line Project. The anticipated cost of the project is ₹1928 crore. So far, the work has been completed in Talcher-Sunakhani (around 20 km) section. Further work has been taken up between Sunakhani to Khamar (30.50 km) section. However, work is held up due to legal issues. Land acquisition in balance section from Khamar to Bimlagarh has been taken up. Out of 1002.61 acre of pvt land, 524.81 acre land has been acquired. Out of 422.38 acre of govt. land, 251.10 acre land has been alienated and all the forest land has been diverted. Government of Odisha has to expedite the acquisition of balance land.
- (b): Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/partly in State of Odisha, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹4,126 crore per year from ₹838 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 392% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹4,568 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (445% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹5,296 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (532% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹6,471 crore for Financial Year 2021-22 (672% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹9,734 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 1062% more than the Average Annual Budget outlay of 2009-14 (₹838 crore per year).

Odisha is covered by East Coast Railway, South Eastern Railway and South East Central Railway. 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.

(c) and (d): Work could not be taken up from Bimlagarh side due to non-availability of land.