

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1090**  
**ANSWERED ON 10.02.2023**

**DELAY IN RAIL PROJECTS**

1090 DR. SANTANU SEN:  
SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) number of rail projects which have not started yet after announcement in last five years, year-wise, State-wise, district-wise for West Bengal;
- (b) reasons for delayed process of above rail projects;
- (c) details of the rail projects in the country which are getting delayed from their fixed time limit in last five years, year-wise, State-wise;
- (d) details of the time required to complete above rail projects; and
- (e) details of the amount of extra expenses cost to Government because of delay in rail projects in last five years, year-wise?

**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.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1090 BY DR. SHANTANU SEN AND SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2023 REGARDING DELAY IN RAIL PROJECTS**

(a) to (e): Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not State/District-wise as Railway projects may span across State/District boundaries.

As on 01.04.2022, 50 Railway infrastructure projects (16 new lines, 04 gauge conversions and 30 doublings), costing ₹51,645 crore, covering total length of 4,365 Km, falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal including those announced/included in the Budget in last 5 years i.e. 2017-18 to 2021-22 and current Financial Year i.e. 2022-23 are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 2,065 Km length have been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹20,974 crore has been incurred upto March'22. These include:-

- 16 New line projects covering total length of 1,538 Km at a cost of ₹25,054 crore, out of which 731 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹10,249 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.
- 4 Gauge conversion projects covering total length of 1,200 Km at a cost of ₹7,848 crore, out of which 848 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,584 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.
- 30 Doubling projects covering total length of 1,627 km at a cost of ₹18,744 crore, out of which 486 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,141 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Railway Infrastructure Projects in the State of West Bengal is covered by Eastern Railway (ER), South Eastern Railway (SER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zones of Indian Railways. The project-wise details including cost, expenditure and outlay are available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget)>Pink Book (year)>Railways-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry 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 conditions, etc. With above constraints, every effort is being made to complete these projects at the earliest.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in allocation of funds and commensurate commissioning of Infrastructure projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of West Bengal, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹4,612 crore per year from ₹4,380 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 5% more than Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹5,033 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (15% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹5,246 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (20% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹6,988 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (60% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹10,262 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 134% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹4,380 crore per year).

During 2014-22, 998 km sections (88 km new line, 151 km Gauge conversion and 759 km doubling) falling fully/partly in the state of West Bengal have been commissioned at an average rate 124.75 km per year.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti Directorate in the Ministry and Gati Shakti units in field, (ii) prioritisation of projects, (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (iv) delegation of powers at field level, (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (vi) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.

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