

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2071**  
**ANSWERED ON 17.03.2023**

**PENDING PROJECTS DUE TO LITIGATION**

2071 LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) number of Railways projects pending due to litigation ;
- (b) the concrete measures Government is taking to overcome these inordinate delays; and
- (c) whether Government intends to amend the Constitution to accelerate such projects?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2071 BY LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.) ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 17.03.2023 REGARDING PENDING PROJECTS DUE TO LITIGATION**

(a) and (b): As on 01.04.2022, across Indian Railways, 452 Railway Infrastructure 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.

Zone-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](http://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 (RSP).

The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like litigation, quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing 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.

Some of the Railway Infrastructure projects are affected due to litigation. The resolution of issues and settlement of disputes is a continuous and ongoing process and is done through Dispute Redressal mechanisms such as Conciliation, Dispute Adjudication Board, Arbitration and appropriate Judicial forums. No centralized compendium of the details of projects pending due to litigation is maintained. To reduce litigation and ensure transparency, Indian Railways has revised General Conditions of Contract (GCC) and Standard Bidding Documents have been issued for different types of contracts. Processes involving sanction of Works, Tendering, Contract Management and Bill payment to contractors has been made online through different integrated applications.

(c): No, Sir. Various steps taken by the Government for speedy sanction and implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (ii) prioritisation of projects (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iv) delegation of powers at field level (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (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. This has led to substantial increase in rate of commissioning since 2014.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects and commensurate commissioning of Projects in Indian Railways. The Average Annual Budget allocation for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects across Indian Railways during 2014-19 increased to ₹26,026 crore per year from ₹11,527 crore per year during 2009-14 (126% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14).

The Annual Budget allocation increased to ₹39,836 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (246% more than Average Annual Budget Allocation during 2009-14), ₹43,626 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (278% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14), ₹56,716 crore for Financial year 2021-22 (392% more than Average Annual Budget Allocation during 2009-14) and ₹67,001 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 (481% more than average annual budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2023-24, highest ever budget outlay of ₹67,199 crore has been proposed for these works, which is 483 % more than Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹11527 Crore/Year).

During 2014-22, across Indian Railway, 20,628 km sections (3,970 km New Line, 5,507 km Gauge Conversion and 11,151 km Doubling) has been commissioned at an average of 2,579 km/year which is 70% more than the average commissioning during 2009-14 (1,520 km/year).

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