GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 313 ANSWERED ON 03.02.2023

RAILWAY PROJECTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION IN PUNJAB

313 SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects under implementation in the State of Punjab;

(b) the status of those projects along with the estimated cost, expenditure incurred and the scheduled date of their completion;

(c) the reasons for cost escalation and time escalation in those projects, if any; and

(d) whether any timeline is fixed for completion of all these projects including provision of sufficient funds in the budget, 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. 313 BY SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 03.02.2023 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION IN PUNJAB.

(a) to (d): The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2022, 12 Projects (6 New Lines and 6 Doubling), costing ₹23,810 crore for 1570 km length falling fully/partly in Punjab are under different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 159 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 4439 Cr. has been incurred upto March 2022. These include:

- 6 New Line Projects of total length 356 km at a cost of ₹11,220 crore, out of which 61 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 2,322 Cr. has been incurred upto March 22.
- 6 Doubling Projects of total length 1,214 km at a cost of ₹12,590 crore, out of which 98 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹2,117 Cr. has been incurred upto March 22.

Railway infrastructure projects in the State of Punjab is covered under Northern Railway (NR) and North Western Railway(NWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zone wise details of these projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. <u>www.indianrailways.gov.in</u>> Ministry of Railways> Railway Board> about Indian Railways> Railway Board Directorates> Finance (Budget)> Pink Book (year)> Railway-wise Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocations and commensurate commissioning of infrastructure projects. Average Annual Budget Allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/Partly in State of Punjab during 2014-19, has been enhanced to ₹1004 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 ₹1565 crore for financial year 2020-21 (596% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14) and ₹ 2,262 Crore for financial year 2021-22 (905% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14). For financial year 2022-23, highest ever budget outlay of ₹ 3543 crore which is 1475 % more than annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

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, 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 of the project(s). With these constraints, Railways are making all efforts to complete these projects at the earliest.