

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2023

STATUS OF RAILWAY PROJECTS IN KARNATAKA

315 SHRI JAGGESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that, many rail projects announced by Railways during previous budgets for Karnataka State are yet to take off;
- (b) if so, the number of rail projects announced by Government from 2017-18, budget-wise and reasons for delay; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to fast track the pending rail projects in the State, the details thereof?

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315 BY SHRI JAGGESH ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 03.02.2023 REGARDING STATUS OF RAILWAY PROJECTS IN KARNATAKA

(a) to (c): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Indian Railways' projects may span across various State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2022, 32 projects (21 new lines and 11 doubling) of total length 4,330 Km, costing ₹49,087 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka are in different stages of planning/sanctioning/execution, out of which 1,305 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹16,258 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. These include:-

- 21 new line projects of total length 2,583 Km, costing ₹32,900 crore, out of which 319 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹5,162 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.
- 11 doubling projects of total length 1,747 Km, costing ₹16,187 crore, out of which 986 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹11,096 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Out of these, total 10 projects (06 new lines and 04 doubling) of total length 657 Km falling fully/partly in Karnataka have been announced/included in Budget from Financial Year 2017-18 to till date.

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka are covered under South Western Railway (SWR), Central Railway (CR), Southern Railway (SR) and South Central Railway (SCR) Zone of Indian Railway. Zone-wise and Year-wise details of all 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.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation for infrastructure and safety work Projects and commensurate commissioning of Projects in Indian Railways.

The Average Annual Budget allocation for these works during 2014-19 increased to ₹2,702 crore per year from ₹835 crore per year during 2009 - 14 (224% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). The Annual Budget allocation increased to ₹3,386 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (306% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14), ₹4,220 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (405% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14) and ₹4,297 crore for Financial year 2021-22(415% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest-ever budget outlay of ₹6,091 crore has been provided for these works, which is 629% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

During 2014-22, 1347 Km length (303 Km of New line and 1,044 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka has been commissioned at an average rate 168.38 km per year, which is 49% more than commissioning during 2009-14 (113 Km/Yr.).

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. All these factors affect the completion time of the project(s). With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti Directorate in Ministry of Railways & Gati Shakti Units in divisions (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.