

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1896
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY TRACKS

1896 SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length (in kilometres) of railway tracks of different gauge constructed in the country, especially in Northeast and Assam since 2018 till date;
- (b) total length (in kilometres) of railways tracks of different gauge constructed per day in the country, particularly in Northeast and Assam since 2018 till date;
- (c) the funds allocated for the development of rail infrastructure in Assam, year-wise; and
- (d) the number of Vande Bharat trains connecting Northeast and if any other Vande Bharat train will be launched in Northeast in near future?

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. 1896 BY SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 04.08.2023 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY TRACKS

(a) to (c): The Railway projects are sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway-wise and not State/UT-wise/region wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries.

From Financial Year (FY) 2018-19 to FY 2022-23, 16,343 km sections (3,230 km New Line, 2,353 km Gauge Conversion and 10,760 km Doubling) have been commissioned across Indian Railways at the rate of 9 kms per day, out of which 512 km sections (243 km New Line, 269 km Doubling) have been commissioned falling fully/partly in Northeast and Assam region during the said period at the rate of 0.28 kms per day.

In the FY 2023-24 (Upto 31 July, 2023), 822 km sections (214 km New Line, 15 km Gauge Conversion and 593 km Doubling) have been commissioned across Indian Railways, out of which 58 km has been commissioned falling fully/partly in Northeast and Assam region during the said period.

As on 01.04.2023, 19 projects(14 New Lines and 5 Doubling), of total length of 1,909 km, costing ₹81,941 crore, falling fully/partly in Assam and Northeast region, are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which 482 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹37,713 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of infrastructure projects. Average annual budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Assam and Northeast region, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹5,531 crore per year, which is 161% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of ₹2,122 crore per year during 2009-14. Annual Budget outlay for these projects has been ₹4,909 crore in FY 2019-20 (131% more than average annual budget outlay during 2009-14), ₹4,669 crore in FY 2020-21 (120% more than average annual budget outlay during 2009-14), ₹7,542 crore in FY 2021-22 (255% more than average annual outlay during 2009-14) and ₹9,970 crore in FY 2022-23(370% more than average annual allocation budget allocation of 2009-14). For FY 2023-24, the highest ever budget allocation of ₹10,269 crore has been provided for these works, which is 384% more than the average of 2009-14 (Rs 2122 Cr/Yr.).

In 2014-23, 1618 Km sections (377 km of New line, 972 km Gauge Conversion and 269 km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in Northeast and Assam region have been commissioned at an average rate of 179.78 km per year, which is 170% more than commissioning during 2009-14 (66.6 Km/Yr.).

(d): As on 31st July, 2023, 50 Vande Bharat train services are running across the Indian Railways, connecting states having Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network. These include 02 Vande Bharat services which are catering to the needs of stations located in the State of Assam. Moreover, introduction of trains, including Vande Bharat services, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, etc.
