

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 122
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2024

IMPROVEMENT IN ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAY TRACKS IN BIHAR

122 SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to improve electrification of railway tracks in Bihar between 2018 and 2023, specifically from Muzaffarpur to Gorakhpur and Darbhanga to Narkatiyaganj via Raxaul and Sikta;
- (b) the total amount of funds spent on electrification of tracks in Bihar between 2018-2023, details thereof, year wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that improvement in electrification has led to decrease in total diesel consumption of Indian Railways, if so, details thereof; and
- (d) the manner in which electrification of rail tracks has benefited Indian Railways overall and help the country to move towards zero emission sustainability target?

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. 122 BY SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.02.2024 REGARDING IMPROVEMENT IN ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAY TRACKS IN BIHAR

(a) and (b) Since 2014-15, Indian Railways has completed electrification of about 40,000 Route Km on Broad gauge (BG) network. There is substantial jump in electrification from about 1.42 Km/day between 2004-14 to about 18 Km/day in 2022-23. At present, 61,813 Route km on BG network has been electrified, which is about 94% of the total Broad Gauge (BG) network of the Indian Railways. The electrification of balance BG network has been taken up.

A total of 2,719 km of Broad Gauge (BG) routes falling in the State of Bihar have been electrified during 2014-23 against electrification of only 149 km of BG routes in Bihar during 2009-14. Railway lines from Muzaffarpur to Gorakhpur and Darbhanga to Narkatiyaganj via Raxaul have also been electrified.

Funds for Railway Electrification are allocated on pan India basis and not State wise. During 2014-23, ₹43,346 crore have been spent on electrification including Bihar. Further, ₹8,070 crore have been allocated for electrification during 2023-24 including Bihar. Fund spent on Electrification during 2018-23 are as under:

Year	Expenditure (₹)
2018-19	5,955 cr
2019-20	7,145 cr
2020-21	6,141 cr
2021-22	6,972 cr
2022-23	6,658 cr

(c) Yes, Sir. Fuel consumption over Indian Railways for Traction purposes is as below:

Year	Fuel consumption (in Ltr)
2018-19	26.41 Crore
2021-22	14.62 Crore

(d) The Electrification of Rail tracks provides following benefits:

- i. Clean and Green mode of transport.
- ii. Better haulage capacity.
- iii. Better line haul cost.
- iv. Reduction in carbon emission.
- v. Saving in precious foreign exchange for crude oil.

For reducing its carbon footprint, IR plans to progressively shift from diesel to electric traction and this electric traction power requirement is planned, as far as possible, to be met through renewable sources.
