

O.I.H.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 198
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2024

GAUGE CONVERSION WORK BETWEEN UDAIPUR AND ASARWA

*198 # SHRI CHUNNILAL GARASIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has completed the gauge conversion work between Udaipur and Asarwa via Himatnagar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds allocated/utilized by Government for this project;
- (d) the details of the pending works of this project, work-wise; and
- (e) the details regarding the timeline by which Government proposes to complete the remaining works?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 198 BY SHRI CHUNNILAL GARASIYA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 09.08.2024 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION WORK BETWEEN UDAIPUR AND ASARWA

(a) to (e): Gauge conversion work of Udaipur – Himmatnagar - Asarwa rail line (299 Km) has been completed. Himmatnagar to Asarwa section has been commissioned in 2019 and Udaipur – Himmatnagar section has been commissioned in 2022. The first train in Asarwa – Himmatnagar section was started in October 2019 and first train in Asarwa – Himmatnagar – Udaipur was started in October 2022. Expenditure of ₹ 3976.21 crore has been incurred for this project. Presently, 05 pairs of train services are catering to the needs of the passengers of Udaipur – Himmatnagar – Asarwa section.

Electrification on Himmatnagar – Asarwa section has been completed and 80% work of electrification on Udaipur – Himmatnagar section has been completed.

Major upgradation work of Udaipur City railway station under ‘Amrit Bharat Station scheme’ has been sanctioned at cost of ₹ 354.01 crore in August – 2022. At Udaipur City Railway station, the tenders have been awarded and structural work of East side station building has been completed. On the West side, structural work for the basement has been completed. Further, the works for provision of concourse, finishes of the buildings, structural work of West side station building, circulating area etc. have been taken up.

As on 01.04.2024, 32 Railway infrastructure projects (15 new lines, 05 gauge conversion and 12 doubling), costing ₹ 51814 crore for 4191 km length falling fully/partly in Rajasthan are under different stages of planning/approval/execution. Out of which 1183 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 14785 crore has been incurred upto March 2024. These include:

- 15 New Line Projects covering total length of 1230 km at a cost of ₹ 20997 crore, out of which 134 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 3593 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.
- 05 Gauge Conversion Projects covering total length of 1252 km at a cost of ₹ 8334 crore, out of which 759 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 5398 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.

- 12 Doubling Projects covering total length of 1709 km at a cost of ₹ 22483 crore, out of which 290 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 5794 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.

Survey of total 54 projects (23 new line and 31 doubling) of total length 4,894 Km falling fully/partly in the State of Rajasthan have been sanctioned during last three years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and current Financial Year 2024-25) under PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) for the development of multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various Economic Zones with an objective to have integrated planning, enhanced logistics efficiency and remove gaps for seamless movement of people, goods and services, connectivity to industrial clusters, ports, mines, power plants, agricultural zones including tourist and cultural places.

Sanctioning of Railway projects is continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railways. Railway infrastructure projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, connecting to unconnected towns and cities, augmentation of congested/saturated lines socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allotment for infrastructure projects and commensurate commissioning. Average annual Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works and commensurate commissioning, falling fully/partly in the state of Rajasthan is as under:-

Budget allotment:

Period	Average Outlay	Increase wrt average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹ 682 Cr./Yr	-
2024-25	₹ 9959 Cr.	Nearly 15 times

Commissioning:

Period	Total track commissioning	Average
2009-14	798 Km	159 km/year
2014-24	3742 Km	374 km/year(more than double)

Completion of 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 etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project/s.
