

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 210
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2024

DEVELOPMENT OF DAULATPUR CHOWK RAILWAY STATION

* 210 # MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved the development project for Daulatpur Chowk Railway Station in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the quantum of funds sanctioned for the said project; and
- (c) the quantum of funds sanctioned for railway expansion in Himachal Pradesh for the financial year 2023-24?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING 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 STARRED QUESTION NO. 210 BY MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 09.08.2024 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF DAULATPUR CHOWK RAILWAY STATION

(a) and (b) Upgradation/ modernisation of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. However, priority for upgradation/modernization of stations is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the work.

Ministry of Railways has launched 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme' for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways. This scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach.

It involves preparation of Master Plans and their implementation in phases to improve the amenities at the stations like improvement of station access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lift/escalators as necessary, platform surfacing and cover over platform, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi, kiosks for local products through schemes like 'One Station One Product', better passenger information systems, Executive Lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping etc. keeping in view the necessity at each station.

The scheme also envisages improvement of building, integrating the station with both sides of the city, multimodal integration, amenities for Divyangjans, sustainable and environment friendly solutions, provision of ballastless tracks etc., as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.

So far, 1324 stations have been identified under this scheme out of which 04 stations namely Amb Andaura, Baijnath Paprola, Palampur and Shimla are located in the State of Himachal Pradesh. Tenders have been awarded for redevelopment of Amb Andaura and Baijnath Paprola stations and works of improvement of station buildings, porticos, circulating areas, parkings, platforms, waiting halls, toilets, signages etc have been taken up. Palampur and Shimla stations have been taken up for master planning.

At Daulatpur Chowk Railway station, Amenities viz. drinking water facility, waiting hall, high level platform, platform shelter, seating arrangement, toilets, urinals etc are available at Daulatpur Chowk railway stations. These amenities are considered adequate for the present volume of passenger traffic being handled at this station.

The details of allocation of funds for development and maintenance of stations including for Amrit Bharat Station Scheme are maintained Zonal Railway-wise under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities' and not station-wise or State-wise. The state of Himachal Pradesh is catered by Northern Railway. During the current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25 an amount of ₹ 3448.34 cr has been allocated to Northern Railway under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'.

(c) As on 01.04.2024, 04 New lines of total length 255 km, costing ₹13,168 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of Himachal Pradesh are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 61 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹6225 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024.

Two (2) new line projects namely Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.5 km) and Chandigarh-Baddi (30 km) passing fully/partly in Himachal Pradesh have been sanctioned on cost sharing basis with state Government of Himachal Pradesh.

In Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.5 km) new line project, 79.57 Ha land out of total required 124.02 Ha land in Himachal Pradesh has been acquired. The work on available land has been taken up. So far, an expenditure of ₹5205 crore has been incurred on this Project and ₹1351 crore is outstanding with Government of Himachal Pradesh.

In Chandigarh- Baddi (30 km) new line project, land has been acquired. The work has been taken up. So far, an expenditure of ₹ 727 crore has been incurred on this Project and ₹ 146 crore is outstanding with the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

The progress of these projects is affected due to non-fulfillment of commitments by the State Govt. The support of the State Govt is required to expedite the Projects.

Average Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the state of Himachal Pradesh:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹108 Cr./Yr	-
2023-24	₹1838 Cr.	More than 17 times
2024-25	₹ 2698 Cr.	Approx. 25 times
