

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 595
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

TRIAL RUN OF ELECTRIC ENGINE ON BRIDGE OVER CHENAB RIVER

595 SHRI ASHOKRAO SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Udhampur-Srinagar Baramula 272 KM long railway stretch in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) the total amount of expenditure incurred on the construction of said rail route and the amount likely to be incurred in near future;
- (c) whether the railways has conducted any trial run of electric engine on world's highest railway bridge build over the Chenab river on Udhampur-Srinagar Baramula rail line;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome therefor; and
- (e) the timeline by when the above said rail route/line is likely to be operational?

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 UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 595 BY SHRI ASHOKRAO SHANKARRAO CHAVAN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 26.07.2024 REGARDING TRIAL RUN OF ELECTRIC ENGINE ON BRIDGE OVER CHENAB RIVER

(a) to (e): The work of the new line in Jammu & Kashmir is being undertaken under Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Project. Out of the total 272 Km of Udhampur Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project (USBRL), 255 KM has already been completed. Work has been taken up on balance stretch of Katra-Reasi section of 17 Km length. Anticipated cost of the project is ₹41,000 crore, against which, expenditure of ₹38,931 crore has been incurred up to March, 2024 on the project.

The Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project is, perhaps, the most difficult new railway line project undertaken in the country post-independence. The terrain passes through young Himalayas, which are full of geological surprises.

This section predominantly involves tunnelling i.e. 97.42 Km out of 111 Km (i.e. 87%) of length of Katra-Banihal section is in tunnels and maximum length of tunnel T-49 is 12.77 Km, which will be longest railway tunnel in the country. Railway has made the world's highest Railway Bridge over Chenab river in Reasi District of Jammu & Kashmir. The iconic Chenab Bridge is 1315 m long having Arch span of 467 m and height of 359 m above river bed. Indian Railway's first cable stayed bridge has been constructed over Anji Khad. Its bridge deck is 331m above the river bed level and height of its Main pylon is 193m.

The trial runs with electric trains have been successfully conducted on the Chenab Bridge. The section from Reasi to Sangaldan (46 km) has been commissioned. Chenab Bridge is situated between Bakkal and Dugga stations on Reasi-Sangaldan section.

The project is likely to be completed in this Financial year.
