

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 601
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

**RAILWAY PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA INCLUDING VANDE BHARAT
TRAINS**

601 DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new railway projects in Maharashtra in the last five years; and
- (b) whether Government will increase the number of Vande Bharat trains in Maharashtra; if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 601 BY DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 26.07.2024 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA INCLUDING VANDE BHARAT TRAINS

(a): Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise or Region-wise as Indian Railways' projects may span across State boundaries.

However, as on 01.04.2024, 41 Railway infrastructure projects (16 New Line, 02 Gauge Conversion and 23 Doubling), of total length of 5,877 km costing ₹81,580 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra are in implementation/ concurrence stages, which includes the projects announced for Maharashtra during last five years and current year, out of which 1,926 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹31,236 crore has been incurred upto March 2024. These include-

- (i) 16 New Line projects of total length of 2,017 km costing ₹38,423 crore, out of which 166 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹8,529 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.
- (ii) 2 Gauge Conversion projects of total length of 609 km costing ₹7,339 crore, out of which 312 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,332 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.
- (iii) 23 Doubling projects of total length of 3,251 km costing ₹35,818 crore, out of which 1,448 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹19,376 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the state of Maharashtra is as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹1,171 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹13,539 crore	11.56 times
2024-25	₹15,940 crore	13.6 times

Commissioning of infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra is as under:

Period	Total Track Commissioned	Average Track Commissioned	Increase w.r.t. average commissioning during 2009-14
2009-14	292 Km	58.4 km/year	-
2014-24	1830 Km	183 km/year	3.13 times

In 2023-24, total 356 kms. have been commissioned which is more than 6 times as compared to average commissioning during 2009-14.

Further, to avoid congestions on suburban corridors and to meet the future demands, MUTP-III costing ₹10,947 crore and MUTP-IIIA costing ₹33,690 crore have been sanctioned . These projects include following additional 10 rail links :

S. No.	Name of project	Cost (₹ in crore)
1	5th & 6th Line CSTM-Kurla (17.5 km)	891
2	6th Line Mumbai Central-Borivali (30 km)	919
3	Panvel-Karjat Suburban corridor (29.6 km)	2782
4	Airoli-Kalwa (elevated) suburban corridor link (3.3 km)	476
5	Quadrupling of Virar-Dahanu Road 3rd & 4th Line (64 km)	3587
6	Extension of Harbour Line Goregaon-Borivali (7 km)	826
7	5th & 6th line Borivali-Virar (26 km)	2184
8	4th line between Kalyan-Asangaon (32 km)	1759
9	3rd & 4th line between Kalyan-Badlapur (14.05 km)	1510
10	Kalyan Yard-Segregation of Main Line & Suburban	866

All these MUTP projects have been sanctioned on cost sharing basis 50:50 between Ministry of Railways and Government of Maharashtra. However, Maharashtra Govt. was not providing requisite funds on time as per the commitment till 2022-23, resulting in delay in completion of the projects. Government of Maharashtra has started funding for MUTP-IIIA projects from April 2023.

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like 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 due to climatic conditions etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project/s.

Various steps taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (ii) delegation of powers at field level, (iii) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (iv) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.

(b): As on 22nd July, 2024, 102 Vande Bharat trains services are running across Indian Railways, connecting States having Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network. Of these, 16 Vande Bharat Services, on origination-termination basic, are catering to the State of Maharashtra. Beside, introduction of new train services, including Vande Bharat Express services, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource constraints, etc.
