

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2204
ANSWERED ON 13.12.2024

ONGOING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

2204 SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the ongoing railway projects in North Eastern Region (NER), State-wise including Assam;
- (b) the funds allocated for these projects; and
- (c) the progress made so far on these projects?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

As on 01.04.2024, 18 Railway projects (13 New Lines and 05 Doubling), of total length of 1,368 Km, costing ₹74,972 crore falling fully/partly in the North East Region including the state of Assam, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which 313 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹40,549 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.

The status of work is summarized as under:-

| Plan Head | No. of projects | Total Length (in Km) | Length Commissioned (in Km) | Expenditure upto March, 2024 (₹ in Cr.) |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| New Lines | 13 | 896 | 81 | 34,616 |
| Doubling | 5 | 472 | 232 | 5,933 |
| Total | 18 | 1,368 | 313 | 40,549 |

Contd....2/-

Zone-wise/year-wise details of all Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

Average Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and other works, falling fully/partly in North East Region including the State of Assam is as under:-

| Period | Outlay |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 2009-14 | ₹2,122 Crore/year |
| 2024-25 | ₹10,376 Crore (Nearly 5 times) |

Commissioning of infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of North East Region including the State of Assam is given below:

| Period | New Track Commissioned | Average Commissioning of new tracks |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 2009-14 | 333 Km | 66.6 Km/year |
| 2014-24 | 1,728 Km | 172.8 Km/year (Nearly 3 times) |

The completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of projects, 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.

Various steps taken by the Government for speedy approval and implementation of Railway projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (ii) prioritisation of projects (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iv) delegation of powers at field level (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (vi) 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. This has led to substantial increase in rate of commissioning since 2014.
