

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2208
ANSWERED ON 13.12.2024

**STATUS OF RAILWAY LINE EXTENSION PROJECTS IN TRIBAL REGIONS OF
ODISHA**

2208 SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of railway line extension projects in remote and tribal-dominated regions in Odisha;
- (b) whether Government has plans to introduce subsidized rail services for these areas; and
- (c) the steps taken to improve accessibility for rural and tribal populations in Odisha?

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 Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. 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 including connectivity to tribal & remote areas etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha are covered under East Coast Railway, South Eastern Railway and South East Central Railway zones of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

As on 01.04.2024, 40 Projects (13 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion and 26 Doubling) of total length 4,017 Km, costing Rs. 54,434 crore, falling fully/partly in Odisha are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 1,100 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of Rs. 22,833 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The summary is as under:-

Category	No of Projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned till Mar'24 (in Km)	Total Exp upto Mar'24 (Rs. in Crore)
New Lines	13	1422	183	5090
Gauge Conversion	01	159	90	184
Doubling/Multitracking	26	2436	827	17559
Total	40	4,017	1,100	22,833

The details of outlay for infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha is as under:-

Period	Outlay
2009-14	Rs. 838 Cr./Year
2024-25	Rs. 10,586 Cr. (More than 12 times)

The details of commissioning / laying of new track falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha during 2009-14 and 2023-24 is as under :-

Period	New Track Commissioned	Average Commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	267 Km	53.4 Km
2023-24	243 Km	243 Km (More than 4 times)

Further, to improve rail connectivity in Odisha including remote and tribal-dominated regions, following projects falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha have been sanctioned in the current financial year i.e. 2024-25:-

SN	Name of the Project	Cost (Rs. in Crore)
1	Gunupur-Therubali New Line (73.62 Km)	1,166
2	Malkangiri-Pandurangapuram via Bhadrachalam station New Line (173.61 Km)	3,592
3	Badampahar-Kendujhargarh New Line (82.06 Km)	1,876
4	Junagarh-Nabarangpur New Line (116.21 Km)	2,865
5	Buramara-Chakulia New Line (59.96 Km)	1,459
6	Bangriposi-Gorumahisani New Line (85.60 Km)	2,269
7	Bargarh Road – Nawapara Road New Line (138.32 Km)	2,622
8	Sardega – Bhalumunda New Double Line (37.24 Km)	1,282

During the last three years (i.e. 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-24) and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25, total 90 Nos. of Surveys (46 New Line and 44 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha having a total length of 5,598 Km have been sanctioned.

Indian Railways caters to various segments of the travelling public and, accordingly, operates different types of train services like ordinary train services, Mail/Express, Amrit Bharat, Vande Bharat, Humsafar, Antyodaya, Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto, Yuva and Garib Rath services etc. and fare is charged as per categorisation of train services. Moreover, Indian Railways strives to provide affordable services to all strata of the society and gave subsidy of ₹56,993 crore on passenger tickets in 2022-23. This amounts to concession of 46% on an average, to every person, travelling on Railways.
