

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 583
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

ONGOING RAIL PROJECTS IN UTTARAKHAND

583 SHRI NARESH BANSAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of ongoing rail projects and renovation of Railway Station project in Uttarakhand at present;
- (b) the status of each rail project and renovation of Railway Stations as on date;
- (c) whether any project is lagging behind from its fixed time period; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 583 BY SHRI NARESH BANSAL ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 29.11.2024 REGARDING ONGOING RAIL PROJECTS IN UTTARAKHAND

(a) to (d): Railway projects/surveys are not sanctioned State-wise/District-wise/Region-wise/Constituency-wise, but sanctioned Zone wise as Indian Railways' projects may span across State boundaries/Parliamentary Constituencies. Railway projects are taken up Zonal Railway-wise on the basis of remunerativeness, 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, 3 New Line projects covering total length of 216 Km costing ₹25,941 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand are under different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 6 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹15,777 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The summary is as under:

Category	No. of projects	Total Length (in km)	Length Commissioned (Km)	Exp upto March 2024 (Rs. in cr.)
New Lines	3	216	6	15777
TOTAL	3	216	6	15777

New Lines projects falling fully/partly in Uttarakhand are covered under Northern Railway (NR) and North Eastern Railway (NER) Zones of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of projects including their cost, expenditure, outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website.

The status of major projects falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand is as under:

1. Rishikesh-Karnaprayag new rail line project of 125 km, costing ₹24,659 crore predominantly involves construction of tunnels. About 89 km tunneling out of 105km in this project length has already been completed and works are in advance stage. This project will provide rail connectivity to Devprayag and Karnaprayag religious and tourist spots with Rishikesh and National Capital of India.
2. Deoband-Roorkee new line project (27 km) will reduce the distance between Delhi and Dehradun by approx. 40 km.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and other works, falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand is as under:-

Period	Outlay
2009-14	Rs. 187 Cr./Yr
2023-24	Rs. 5004 Cr. (Nearly 27 times)
2024-25	Rs. 5131 Cr. (More than 27 times)

Ministry of Railways has recently launched Amrit Bharat Station scheme. 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, 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, 1337 stations including 11 stations in the State of Uttarakhand have been identified for development under the scheme. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the State of Uttarakhand are as below:

State	No. of Stations	Name of Stations
Uttarakhand	11	Dehradun, Haridwar Jn., Harrawala, Kashipur, Kathgodam, Kichha, Kotdwar, Lalkuan Jn., Ramnagar, Roorkee, Tanakpur

Development/redevelopment/upgradation of Railway Stations is complex in nature involving safety of passengers & trains and requires various statutory clearances such as fire clearance, heritage, tree cutting, air-port clearance etc. The progress also gets affected due to brown field related challenges such as shifting of utilities, (involving water/sewage lines, optical fibre cables, gas pipe lines, power/signal cables etc.) infringements, operation of trains without hindering passenger movement, speed restrictions due to works carried out in close proximity of high voltage power lines etc. and these factors affect the completion time. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.

The completion of any Railway project(s) 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.
