

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2508**  
**ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025**

**BUDGET FOR RAILWAY CONNECTIVITY IN HIMACHAL PRADESH**

2508 DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned any budget to strengthen railway connectivity in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details and the present status of ongoing railway projects, particularly, in the State of Himachal Pradesh including those announced in the last three Railway Budgets; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any measures towards making the railway infrastructure more sustainable and to ensure medical facilities and first aid to needy passengers during journeys?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): The Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/District-wise as the Railways' projects may span across state boundaries. Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. Railway Infrastructure Projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, connectivity to industrial areas, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Himachal Pradesh are covered under Northern Railway Zone 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, 04 New line of total length 255 km, costing Rs.13,168 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of Himachal Pradesh are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 61 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of Rs. 6225 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The status of the work is summarized as :

Category	No. of projects	Total Length (in km)	Length Commissioned (Km)	Exp upto March 2024 (Rs. in cr.)
New Line	4	255	61	6225

Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in Himachal Pradesh is as under:

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹108 crore/year
2024-25	₹2698 crore (Near 25 times)
2025-26	₹2716 crore (More than 25 times)

Two (2) new line projects namely Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.5 km) and Chandigarh-Baddi (30 km) falling fully/partly in Himachal Pradesh have been sanctioned on cost sharing basis with state Government of Himachal Pradesh.

In Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.5 km) new line project, 79.57 Ha land out of total required 124.02 Ha land in Himachal Pradesh has been acquired. The work on available land has been taken up. So far, an expenditure of ₹5205 crore has been incurred on this Project and ₹1351 crore is outstanding with Government of Himachal Pradesh.

The work of Chandigarh-Baddi (30 km) new rail line project have been taken up. As on 01.07.2024, the expenditure is Rs. 727 Cr. HP State share comes out to be Rs. 363.5 Cr. HP has deposited Rs. 217.75 Cr till date and balance share of Rs. 145.75 Cr is outstanding with State Government of Himachal Pradesh.

The progress of these projects is affected due to non-fulfillment of commitments by the State Govt. The support of State Govt is required to expedite the Projects. The total outstanding amount is Rs. 1496.75 crore. Failure to make this contribution is likely to have significant impact on these projects.

Indian Railways has taken various initiatives to promote environment friendly & sustainable practices. Some of them are as under:-

- Conversion of End on Generation (EOG) trains into Head on Generation (HOG) trains to reduce noise, air pollution and diesel consumption.
- Shifting from diesel to electric traction.
- Construction of Eastern & Western Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs).
- Introduction of 3-phase propulsion system with regenerative braking.
- Provision of energy efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting in all Railway installations including stations, service buildings, residential quarters and coaches for reduction in electricity consumption.
- Use of star rated appliances.
- Green Certifications & Environment Management System Certifications of industrial units, railway stations and other railway establishments.
- Hydrogen fuelled train set pilot project.
- Proper waste management.

The need and extent of providing medical facilities at railway stations and in trains was examined by Hon'ble Supreme Court. In compliance of the orders, a committee of experts was constituted at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. As recommended by Committee of experts, instructions have been issued to provide a Medical Box containing life saving medicines, equipments, oxygen cylinder etc. at all Railway stations and passenger carrying trains. Front line staff i.e. Train Ticket Examiner, Train Guards/Superintendents, Station Master etc. are trained in rendering First Aid. Regular refresher courses are conducted for such staff. List of near-by hospitals and doctors along with their contact numbers is available at all Railway Stations. Ambulance services of Railways, State Government/Private Hospitals and ambulance service providers are utilized to transport the injured/sick passengers to the hospitals/doctor's clinics.

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