

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2372**  
**ANSWERED ON 08.08.2025**

**SPECIAL TRAINS FOR UPCOMING FESTIVALS LIKE DEEPAWALI, MAHAPARVA  
CHHATH**

2372 # SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has planned to run special trains in view of the upcoming festivals like Deepawali, Mahaparva Chhath,

(b) whether the Railways has taken any steps to improve connectivity from Bihar to other States; and

(c) whether the East Central Railway and Eastern Railway zones have proposed to start more train services from Bihar to other States in the past years in view of increasing demand for more trains?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) Indian Railways constantly endeavours to cater to the growing needs of travelling passengers. To this end, new services are introduced, existing train services are extended and their frequency increased. Besides, augmentation of loads of existing train services is also undertaken. These are ongoing processes, subject to operational feasibility, resource availability, competing demands etc.

As the Railway network straddles across state boundaries, trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. However, to provide/improve connectivity for the passengers, Indian Railways, between the period 2024-25 and 2025-26 (till 31.07.2025) have, on originating/terminating basis, introduced 46 train services serving the stations located in the State of Bihar which include the following 12 services introduced since April, 2025:

1. 94802/04 Jaynagar-Patna Namoh Bharat Rapid Rail
2. 11015/16 Lokmanya Tilak (T)- Saharsa Amrit Bharat Express

3. 26501/02 Gorakhpur-Patliputra Vande Bharat Express
4. 15561/62 Darbhanga-Gomtinagar Amrit Bharat Express
5. 15567/68 Bapudham Motihari-Anand Vihar(T) Amrit Bharat Express
6. 22361/62 Rajendra Nagar-New Delhi Amrit Bharat Express

Moreover, to cater to the extra rush of passengers during peak seasons, festivals, special events, etc. Indian Railways also operates special trains and augments the loads of existing services, keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources etc. These are on-going processes.

Accordingly, during the year 2024 and 2025, around 13,500 trips of special trains each year have been operated to cater to the extra rush of passengers during Holi festival and Summer vacations.

IR, also catered to the rush of passengers during Durga Pooja/Dipawali/Chhath by operating 7990 trips of Special trains during the period 1st October, 2024 to 30th November, 2024 which served approximately 1.8 crore passengers.

In order to cater to the needs of passengers and facilitate their journey during Maha Kumbh-2025, Indian Railways operated more than 17,300 trains which included 7484 Special trains. All these measures served approximately 4.24 crore passengers visiting Maha Khumbh.

To generate additional accommodation for different segments of passengers, IR during the period 2023-24 to 2025-26(till June, 2025), utilised 2275 coaches for augmentation of train services on a permanent basis.

To improve connectivity, the Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries.

Railway infrastructural Projects in the State of Bihar are covered by East Central Railway (ECR), Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR), Eastern Railway (ER), North Eastern Railway (NER) Zone of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

As on 01.04.2025, 52 projects(31 New Lines, 01 Gauge Conversions and 20 Doubling), of a total length of 4,663 km, costing ₹86,107 crore, falling fully/partly in Bihar, are sanctioned, out of which 1,014 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹29,353 crore has been incurred upto March' 2025. The summary is as under:-

Category	No of sanctioned Projects	Total Length NL/GC/DL (in Km)	Length Commissioned till Mar'25 (in Km)	Total Exp upto Mar'25

New Lines	31	2691	516	₹ 16814 Cr
Gauge Conversion	01	69	52	₹ 544 Cr
Doubling/Multi-tracking	20	1904	446	₹ 11995 Cr
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>4663</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>₹ 29353 Cr</b>

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

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹ 1132 Cr./year
2025-26	₹10,066 Cr. (Nearly 9 times)

The details of commissioning/ laying of new track falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar is as under:-

Period	New Track Commissioned	Average Commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	318 Km	63.6 Km
2014-25	1899 Km	172.6 (More than 2.5 times)

Details of some of the recently completed projects falling fully/partly in Bihar are as under :

Sl.	Project	Cost
1	Munger Bridge (19 km)	₹ 2,774 Cr
2	Kosi Bridge (22 Km)	₹516 Cr
3	Patna Bridge (40 Km)	₹3,555 Cr
4	Hajipur-Bachwara Doubling (72 km)	₹ 930 Cr
5	Kiul-Gaya Doubling (123 km)	₹ 1,200 Cr
6	Karota Patner-Mankatha - Surface triangle (8 km)	₹ 129 Cr
7	Rampurhat-Mandarhill New Line and Rampurhat-Murara- 3rd line (160 km)	₹1,500 Cr
8	Jaynagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj and Narkatiaganj-Bhikhna Tori Gauge Conversion (295 Km)	₹1,193 Cr

<b>9</b>	Sakri-Laukaha Bazar-Nirmali & Saharsa-Forbesganj Gauge Conversion (206 Km)	₹2,113 Cr
<b>10</b>	Bakhtiyarpur Flyover (4 Km)	₹402 Cr
<b>11</b>	Katareah-Kursela Patch Doubling incl. bridge on river Kosi (7 km)	₹ 222 Cr
<b>12</b>	Araria-Galgalia New Line (111 Km)	₹4, 415 Cr
<b>13</b>	Kiul-Tilaiya Railway Electrification (87 kms)	₹105 Cr
<b>14</b>	Valmikinagar-Sugauli-Muzaffarpur and Sugauli-Raxaul Railway Electrification (240 km)	₹ 351 Cr

The above projects include three important bridges across Ganga and Kosi rivers viz Munger bridge, Patna Bridge and Kosi bridge. These are mega bridges with longer spans requiring expertise of high nature. Therefore, IITs/NITs were engaged for checking the designs and methodology of construction of these bridges.

Though these Bridges were sanctioned long before 2014 but substantial progress in the construction of these bridges could be achieved only after 2014. Proper planning, adoption of efficient execution methodologies and availability of sufficient funds were ensured for expediting these projects in Bihar.

Further, some of the main projects falling fully/partly in Bihar which have been taken up are as under:

<b>Sl.</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>1</b>	Sitamarhi-Sheohar New Line (28 Km)	₹ 567 Cr
<b>2</b>	Sakri-Hasanpur New Line (76 Km)	₹ 735 Cr
<b>3</b>	Khagaria-Kusheshwarsthan New Line (42 Km)	₹ 1511 Cr
<b>4</b>	Neora-Daniawan-Biharsharif - Barbiga-Shekhpora New Line (166 Km)	₹ 2200 Cr
<b>5</b>	Koderma-Tilaiya New Line (65 Km)	₹ 1626 Cr
<b>6</b>	Hajipur-Sagauli New Line (151 Km)	₹ 2087 Cr
<b>7</b>	Araria-Supaul New Line (96 Km)	₹ 1605 Cr
<b>8</b>	Vikramshila-Katareah New Line with Bridge over River Ganga(26 Km)	₹ 2090 Cr
<b>9</b>	Pirpainti-Jasidih New Line (97 Km)	₹ 2140 Cr
<b>10</b>	Sonnagar – Patratu multitracking (291 Km)	₹ 5148 Cr
<b>11</b>	Samastipur – Darbhanga Doubling (38 Km)	₹ 624 Cr

<b>12</b>	Rampur Dumra - Tal-Rajendra Pul-Additional bridge and doubling (14 Km)	₹1677 Cr
<b>13</b>	Sagauli-Valmiknagar Doubling (110 Km)	₹ 1280 Cr
<b>14</b>	Muzaffarpur-Sagauli Doubling (101 Km)	₹ 1465 Cr
<b>15</b>	Barauni- Bachwara 3rd & 4th line (32 Km)	₹ 124 Cr

During last three years (i.e. 2022-2023, 2023-24, 2024-25 and current Financial Year i.e. 2025-26), total 77 Nos. of Surveys (13 New Line, 64 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar having a total length of 3,991 Km have been sanctioned. Some of the important surveys that have been taken up are as under:

<b>Sl.</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Length</b>
1	Deen Dayal Upadhyay-Kiul 3rd & 4th Line	390 Km
2	Chhapra-Katihar 3rd & 4th Line	450 Km
3	Bhagalpur-Jamalpur 3 <sup>rd</sup> Line	53 Km
4	Nawada-Pawapuri New Line	33 Km
5	Bihta-Aurangabad New Line	120 Km
6	Gaya-Rafiganj-Daltonganj New Line	137 Km
7	Bakhtiyarpur-Tilaiya doubling	104 Km
8	Rampurhat-Dumka-Bhagalpur doubling	177 Km
9	Laheriyasaraï-Jamalpur-Saharsa New Line	96 Km
10	Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga New Line	96 Km
11	Darbhanga - Sakri Doubling	21 Km
12	Mansi – Saharsa Doubling	45 Km

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