

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 749
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2025

DOUBLING AND QUADRUPLING OF RAILWAYS LINES IN BIHAR

749# DR. BHIM SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether progress of work of doubling and quadrupling works on several important railway lines in Bihar such as Patna-Gaya, Buxar-Ara, Darbhanga-Sitamarhi, and Katihar-Barauni sections has been slower than expected;
- (b) if so, whether it is due to land acquisition, environmental clearance, financial allocation, or any other reasons;
- (c) whether the DPRs for the projects have been submitted to the Railway Board, if not, the obstacles in coordination between the Government of Bihar and the Ministry of Railways; and
- (d) updated timelines for the projects and whether the Ministry is running a special campaign to complete these works within stipulated time?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): Budget allocation in the recent years has increased significantly. Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar is as under:-

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹ 1,132 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	1,899 Km	172.6 Km (More than 2.5 times)

Contd...2/-

As on 01.04.2025, 52 projects (31 New Lines, 01 Gauge Conversion and 20 Doubling) of a total length of 4,663 km, costing ₹86,107 crore, falling fully/partly in Bihar, are sanctioned. 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 (in Cr)
New Lines	31	2,691	516	16,814
Gauge Conversion	01	69	52	544
Doubling/Multi-tracking	20	1,904	446	11,995
Total	52	4,663	1,014	29,353

Patna-Gaya is already double line section.

Buxar-Ara is a double line section falling on Deen Dayal Upadhyay-Patna main line. To augment the capacity of this section, the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of 3rd & 4th line of Deen Dayal Upadhyay-Buxar-Ara-Danapur-Patna section has been prepared.

The doubling of Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhanga and Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur has been recently sanctioned at a cost of ₹4080 Cr. The work have been taken up. This project has been declared as a Special Railway Project in June 2025. Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA) has also been nominated in September 2025.

Katihar-Barauni is an existing double line section. To augment the capacity, DPR of 3rd & 4th line Katihar-Barauni has been prepared.

After preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), sanctioning of project requires consultation with various state-holders including State Governments and necessary approvals viz. appraisal of NITI Aayog., Ministry of Finance etc. As sanctioning of projects is a continuous and dynamic process, exact timelines depends upon appraisals and approvals by various stakeholders.

During last three years (i.e. 2022-2023, 2023-24, 2024-25 and current financial year 2025-26), total 90 Nos. of Surveys (16 New Line, 74 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar having a total length of 4,472 Km have been sanctioned.

Sanction of any railway project depend upon many parameters/factors which include the following:

- Anticipated traffic projections and Remunerativeness of the proposed route
- First and last mile connectivity provided by the project
- Connection of missing links and providing additional route
- Augmentation of congested/saturated lines
- Demands raised by State Governments/Central Ministries/Public representatives,
- Railway's own operational requirements
- Socio-economic considerations
- Overall availability of funds

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors which include the following:

- Land acquisition by State Government
- Forest clearance
- Shifting of infringing utilities
- Statutory clearances from various authorities
- Geological and topographical conditions of area
- Law and order situation in the area of project site
- Number of working months in a year for particular project site etc.

All these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project/s.
