GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 165
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2026

PROGRESS OF MULTI-TRACKING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

*165 DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made on the multi-tracking railway projects approved for Maharashtra, including the total length sanctioned, estimated cost and time-frame for completion;

(b) the expected benefits in terms of passenger and freight connectivity for districts under this project;

(c) the steps taken to ensure timely land acquisition and rehabilitation of affected persons; and

(d) the measures adopted to strengthen safety standards at high-density stations in view of past overcrowding incidents?

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.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.165 BY DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 13.02.2026 REGARDING PROGRESS OF MULTI-TRACKING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

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

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹1,171 crore/year
2025-26	₹23,778 crore (More than 20 times)

The details of commissioning/laying of new track falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra during 2009-14 and 2014-25 is as under:

Period	New track Commissioned	Average commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	292 Km	58.4 Km/year
2014-25	2,292 Km	208.4 Km/year (More than 3 times)

As on 01.04.2025, 38 projects (11 New Lines, 02 Gauge Conversion and 25 Doubling), of a total length of 5,098 km, costing ₹89,780 crore, falling fully/partly in Maharashtra, are sanctioned. The summary is as under:-

Category	No. of sanctioned Projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned Upto Mar'25 (Km)	Exp. upto Mar'25 (₹ in Cr.)
New Line	11	1,355	234	10,504
Gauge Conversion	02	609	334	4,286
Doubling/ Multitracking	25	3,134	1,792	24,617
Total	**38**	**5,098**	**2,360**	**39,407**

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

S.No.	Project	Cost (₹ in crore)
1	Pune-Miraj-Londa Doubling (467 Km)	4,670

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2	Jabalpur-Gondia Gauge Conversion (300 Km)	2,005
3	Chhindwara-Nagpur Gauge Conversion (150 Km)	1,512
4	Panvel-Pen Doubling (35 Km)	263
5	Pen-Roha Doubling (40 Km)	330
6	Udhna-Jalgaon Doubling (307 Km)	2,448
7	Mudkhed-Parbhani Doubling (81 Km)	673
8	Bhusawal-Jalgaon 3rd Line (24 Km)	325
9	Jalgaon-Bhusawal 4th Line (24 Km)	261
10	Daund-Gulbarga Doubling (225 Km)	3,182

To further improve the Railway Infrastructure in the state of Maharashtra, following works have been taken up:-

S.No.	**Name of the project**	**Cost (₹ In crore)**
1	Ahilyanagar (Ahmednagar)-Beed-Parli Vaijnath New Line (261 Km)	4,957
2	Baramati-Lonand New Line (64 Km)	1,844
3	Wardha-Nanded New Line (284 Km)	3,445
4	Indore-Manmad New Line (360 Km)	18,529
5	Wadsa-Gadchiroli New Line (52 Km)	1,886
6	Jalna-Jalgaon New Line (174 Km)	5,804
7	Daund-Manmad Doubling (236 Km)	3,037
8	Kalyan-Kasara 3rd Line (68 Km)	1,433
9	Wardha-Nagpur 3rd Line (76 Km)	698
10	Wardha-Ballarshah 3rd Line (132 Km)	1,385
11	Itarsi-Nagpur 3rd Line (280 Km)	2,450
12	Rajnandgaon-Nagpur 3rd Line (228 Km)	3,545
13	Wardha-Nagpur 4th Line (79 Km)	1,137
14	Jalgaon-Manmad 4th Line (160 Km)	2,574

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15	Bhusawal-Khandwa 3rd & 4th Line (131 Km)	3,285
16	Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad New Line (95 Km)	2,933
17	Panvel-Chowk Double Line (17 Km)	491
18	Wardha-Balharshah 4th Line (135 Km)	2,226
19	Itarsi-Nagpur 4th Line (297 Km)	5,010
20	Wardha-Bhusawal 3rd & 4th Line (314 Km)	9,197
21	Asangaon-Kasara 4th Line (35 Km)	794
22	Badlapur-Karjat 3rd & 4th Line (32 Km)	1,324
23	Gondia-Dongargarh 4th Line (84 Km)	2,223
24	Gondia-Balharshah Doubling (240 Km)	4,373

Further, Construction works on the flagship High speed bullet train project have gathered momentum in Maharashtra. Now 100% land acquisition has been completed. Works of bridges, aqueducts etc. have been taken up.

Western DFC also passes through Maharashtra. About 178 route Km of western DFC is situated in Maharashtra which is about 12% of overall route length of western DFC. 76 Km of this project from New Gholvad to New Vaitarna in Maharashtra has already been commissioned. Balance works have been taken up. Connectivity of WDFC to JNPT will boost the capacity to handle cargo and container traffic from port to Delhi NCR.

Further, during the last three years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the current financial year 2025-26, 98 surveys (29 New Line, 2 Gauge Conversion and 67 Doubling) of total length 8,615 Km falling fully/ partly in the State of Maharashtra, have been sanctioned.

Sanction of any railway project depends 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

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

- Land acquisition
- 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.

Various steps taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include:

- Substantial increase in allocation of funds.
- Delegation of powers at field level.
- Close monitoring of progress of project at various levels.
- Regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.

Railway Infrastructure projects enable socio-economic development of the region including:

- Better integration of the region with other parts of the country
- Faster movement of goods and services
- Improving logistics efficiency
- Enhance line capacity
- Increase in direct and indirect employment opportunities for the people of the region
- Reduces operational bottlenecks
- Development of tourism industry and increase in industrial activities in the region.

Safety:

Safety is accorded the highest priority on Indian Railways. As a consequence of various safety measures taken over the years, there has been a steep decline in the number of accidents.

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Number of Consequential Train Accidents has reduced as shown in the table below:-

Year	Consequential Accidents
2014-15	135
2025-26 (upto 31.01.2026)	12 (90% lesser)

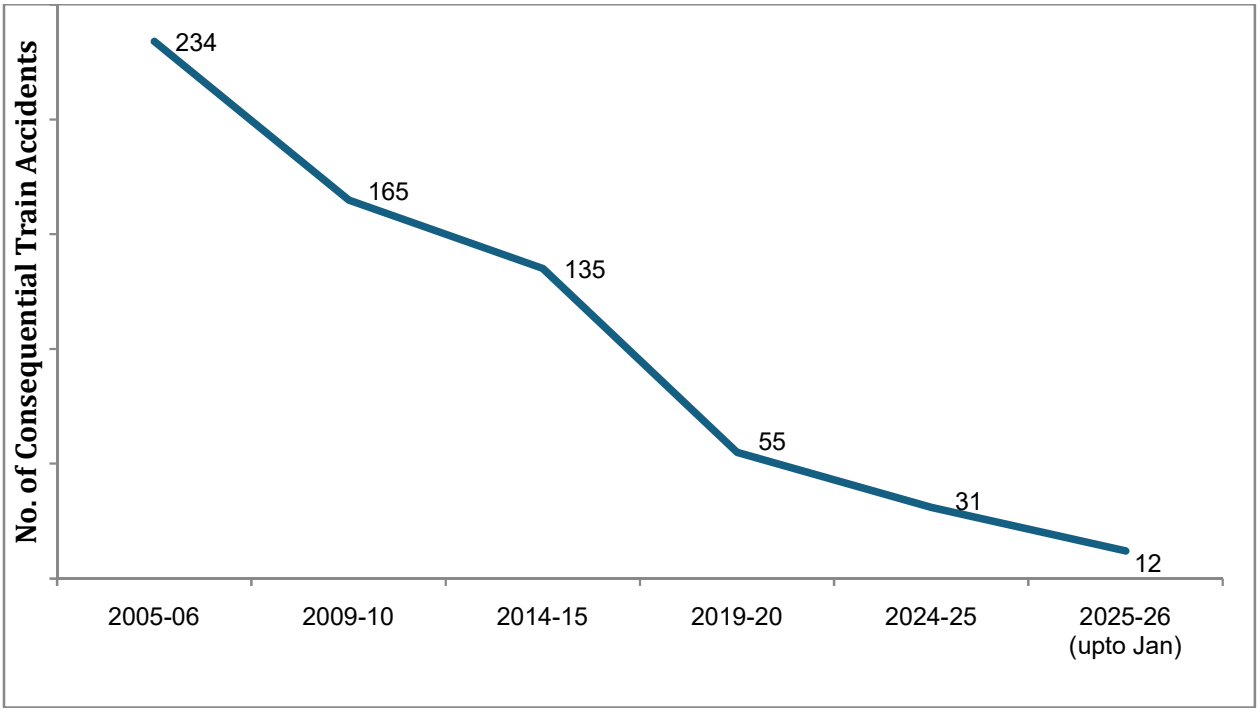
Another important index showing improvement in safety in train operations is Consequential Accidents Index, the details of which are as under:-

Consequential Accident Index:-

Year	Accident Index
2014-15	0.11
2024-25	0.03 (73% lesser)

This index measures number of consequential accidents as a ratio of total running Kilometers of all trains.

$$\text{Accident Index} = \frac{\text{No. of consequential accidents}}{\text{No. of trains X million kilometers run}}$$



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Safety is accorded the highest priority on Indian Railways. The various safety measures taken to enhance safety in train operations are as under:-

1. On Indian Railways, the expenditure on Safety related activities has increased over the years as under:-

Expenditure/Budget on Safety related activities (Rs. in Cr.)				
2013-14	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2024-25**	**2025-26**
39,200	**87,336**	**1,01,662**	**1,14,022**	**1,17,693**

2. Electrical/Electronic Interlocking Systems with centralized operation of points and signals have been provided at 6,660 stations up to 31.12.2025 to reduce accidents due to human failure.
3. Interlocking of Level Crossing (LC) Gates has been provided at 10,097 Level Crossing Gates up to 31.12.2025 for enhancing safety at LC Gates.
4. Complete Track Circuiting of stations to enhance safety by verification of track occupancy by electrical means has been provided at 6,665 stations up to 31.12.2025.
5. Kavach is a highly technology intensive system, which requires safety certification of highest order. Kavach was adopted as a National ATP system in July 2020. Based on deployment of Kavach version 3.2 on 1465 RKm on South Central Railway and experience gained, further improvements were made. Finally, Kavach specification version 4.0 was approved by RDSO on 16.07.2024.

   After extensive and elaborate trials, Kavach Version 4.0 has been successfully commissioned on 1297 Route Kilometres, covering the high density Delhi - Mumbai and Delhi - Howrah routes. On the Delhi - Mumbai route Kavach ver 4.0 has been commissioned on Junction cabin - Palwal - Mathura - Nagda section (667 Rkm) & Ahmedabad - Vadodara - Virar section (432 Rkm) and on the Delhi - Howrah route on Gaya – Sarmatanr (93 Rkm) and Bardhaman - Howrah section (105 Rkm).
6. Detailed instructions on issues related with safety of Signalling, e.g. mandatory correspondence check, alteration work protocol, preparation of completion drawing, etc. have been issued.
7. System of disconnection and reconnection for S&T equipment as per protocol has been re-emphasized.
8. All locomotives are equipped with Vigilance Control Devices (VCD) to improve alertness of Loco Pilots.
9. Retro-reflective sigma boards are provided on the mast which is located two OHE masts prior to the signals in electrified territories to alert the crew about the signal ahead when visibility is low due to foggy weather.

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10. A GPS based Fog Safety Device (FSD) is provided to loco pilots in fog affected areas which enables loco pilots to know the distance of the approaching landmarks like signals, level crossing gates, etc.
11. Modern track structure consisting of 60kg, 90 Ultimate Tensile Strength (UTS) rails, Prestressed Concrete Sleeper (PSC) Normal/Wide base sleepers with elastic fastening, fan shaped layout turnout on PSC sleepers, Steel Channel/H-beam Sleepers on girder bridges is used while carrying out primary track renewals.
12. Mechanisation of track laying activity through use of track machines like PQRS, TRT, T-28 etc. to reduce human errors.
13. Maximizing supply of 130m/260m long rail panels for increasing progress of rail renewal and avoiding welding of joints, thereby improving safety.
14. Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) testing of rails to detect flaws and timely removal of defective rails.
15. Laying of longer rails, minimizing the use of Alumino Thermic Welding and adoption of better welding technology for rails i.e., Flash Butt Welding.
16. Monitoring of track geometry by OMS (Oscillation Monitoring System) and TRC (Track Recording Cars).
17. Patrolling of railway tracks to look out for weld/rail fractures.
18. The use of Thick Web Switches and Weldable CMS Crossing in turnout renewal works.
19. Inspections at regular intervals are carried out to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices.
20. Web based online monitoring system of track assets viz. Track database and decision support system has been adopted to decide rationalized maintenance requirement and optimize inputs.
21. Detailed instructions on issues related with safety of Track, e.g. integrated block, corridor block, worksite safety, monsoon precautions, etc. have been issued.
22. Preventive maintenance of railway assets (Coaches & Wagons) is undertaken to ensure safe train operations.
23. Replacement of conventional ICF design coaches with LHB design coaches is being done.
24. All unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) on Broad Gauge (BG) route have been eliminated by January 2019.
25. Safety of Railway Bridges is ensured through regular inspection of Bridges. The requirement of repair/rehabilitation of Bridges is taken up based upon the conditions assessed during these inspections.

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26. Indian Railways has displayed Statutory "Fire Notices" for widespread passenger information in all coaches. Fire posters are provided in every coach so as to educate and alert passengers regarding various Do's and Don'ts to prevent fire. These include messages regarding not carrying any inflammable material, explosives, prohibition of smoking inside the coaches, penalties etc.
27. Production Units are providing Fire detection and suppression system in newly manufactured Power Cars and Pantry Cars, Fire and Smoke detection system in newly manufactured coaches. Progressive fitment of the same in existing coaches is also underway by Zonal Railways in a phased manner.
28. Regular counselling and training of staff is undertaken.
29. Concept of Rolling Block introduced in Indian Railways (Open Lines) General Rules vide Gazette notification dated 30.11.2023, wherein work of integrated maintenance/ repair/replacement of assets is planned up to 52 weeks in advance on rolling basis and executed as per plan.

The details of the Safety related works related to better maintenance practices, Technological improvements, better infrastructure and rolling stock etc. undertaken by Railways are tabulated below:-

S.N.	Item	2004-05 to 2013-14	2014-15 to 2024-25	2014-25 Vs. 2004-14
	Technological Improvements			
1.	Use of high-quality rails (60 Kg) (Km)	57,450 Km	1.43 Lakh Km	More than 2 times
2.	Longer Rail Panels (260m) (Km)	9,917 Km	77,522 Km	Nearly 8 times
3.	Electronic Interlocking (Stations)	837 Stations	3,691 Stations	More than 4 times
4.	Fog Pass Safety Devices (Nos.)	As on 31.03.14: 90 Nos.	As on 31.03.25: 25,939 Nos.	288 times
5.	Thick Web Switches (Nos.)	Nil	28,301 Nos.	
	Better Maintenance Practices			
1.	Primary Rail Renewal (Track Km)	32,260 Km	49,941 Km	1.5 times
2.	USFD (Ultra Sonic Flaw detection) Testing of Welds (Nos.)	79.43 Lakh	2 Crore	More than 2 times
3.	Weld failures (Nos.)	In 2013-14: 3699 Nos.	In 2024-25: 370 Nos.	90 % reduction
4.	Rail fractures (Nos.)	In 2013-14: 2548 Nos.	In 2024-25: 289 Nos.	More than 88% reduction

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Better Infrastructure and Rolling Stock				
1.	New Track KM added (Track Km)	14,985 Km	34,428 Km	More than 2 times
2.	Flyovers (RoBs)/Underpasses (RUBs) (Nos.)	4,148 Nos.	13,808 Nos.	More than 3 times
3.	Unmanned Level crossings (Nos.) on BG	As on 31.03.14: 8,948	As on 31.03.24:Nil (All eliminated by 31.01.19)	Removed
4.	Manufacture of LHB Coaches (Nos.)	2,337 Nos.	42,677	More than 18 times

Station Redevelopment:

Ministry of Railways has launched Amrit Bharat Station Scheme for redevelopment of stations with a long-term approach.

The scheme involves preparation of master plans and their implementation in phases to improve the stations. The master planning includes:

- Improvement of access to station and circulating areas
- Integration of station with both sides of city
- Improvement of station building
- Improvement of waiting halls, toilets, sitting arrangement, water booths
- Provision of wider foot over bridge/air concourse commensurate with passenger traffic
- Provision of lift/escalators/ramp
- Improvement /Provision of platform surface and cover over platforms
- Provision of kiosks for local products through schemes like ‘One Station One Product’
- Parking areas, Multimodal integration
- Amenities for Divyangjans
- Better passenger information systems
- Provision of executive lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping, etc. keeping in view the necessity at each station

The scheme also envisages sustainable and environment friendly solutions, provision of ballastless tracks etc. as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centre at the station in the long term.

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So far, 1337 stations have been identified for development under this scheme, out of which 132 stations are located in Maharashtra. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in Maharashtra are as following:

State	No. of Stations	Name of Stations
Maharashtra	132	Ahmednagar, Ajni (Nagpur), Akalkot Road, Akola, Akurdi, Amalner, Amgaon, Amravati, Andheri, Badnera, Balharshah, Bandra Terminus, Baramati, Belapur, Bhandara Road, Bhokar, Bhusawal, Borivali, Byculla, Chalisgaon, Chanda Fort, Chandrapur, Charni Road, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Chinchpokli, Chinchwad, Dadar (CR), Dadar (WR), Dahisar, Daund, Dehu Road, Devlali, Dhamangaon, Dharangaon, Dharashiv, Dharmabad , Dhule, Diva, Dudhani, Gangakher , Godhani, Gondia, Grant Road, Hadapsar, Hatkanangale, Hazur Sahib Nanded, Himayatnagar, Hinganghat, Hingoli Deccan, Igatpuri, Jalgaon, Jalna, Jeur, Jogeshwari, Kalyan Jn, Kamptee, Kandivali, Kanjur Marg, Karad, Katol, Kedgaon, Kinwat , Kopargaon, Kurduwadi Jn, Kurla Jn, Lasalgaon, Latur, Lokmanya Tilak Terminus, Lonand Jn, Lonavla, Lower Parel, Malad, Malkapur, Manmad Jn, Manwath Road , Marine Lines, Matunga, Miraj Jn, Mudkhed Jn, Mumbai Central, Mumbra, Murtizapur Jn, Nagarsol , Nagpur Jn, Nandgaon, Nandura, Nandurbar, Narkher Jn, Nashik Road, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari Junction, Pachora Jn, Palghar, Pandharpur, Panvel Jn, Parbhani Jn, Parel, Parli Vaijnath, Partur , Phaltan, Prabhadevi, Pulgaon Jn, Pune Jn, Purna Jn, Raver, Rotegaon , Sainagar Shirdi, Sandhurst Road, Sangli, Satara, Savda, Selu , Sewagram, Shahad, Shegaon, Shivaji Nagar Pune, Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus Kolhapur, Solapur, Talegaon, Thakurli, Thane, Titvala, Tumsar Road, Umri, Uruli, Vadala Road, Vidyavihar, Vikhroli, Wadsa, Wardha, Washim, Wathar

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Development works at railway stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in Maharashtra have been taken up at a good pace. Till now, works of 17 stations (Amgaon, Baramati, Chanda Fort, Chinchpokli, Devlali, Dhule, Kedgaon, Lasalgaon, Lonand Jn, Matunga, Murtizapur Jn, Nandura, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari Junction, Parel, Savda, Shahad, Vadala Road) in Maharashtra have been completed under this scheme. The activities for development at other stations have also been taken up at good pace and progress of some of the stations is as given below:

- **Washim station:** The works of improvement of station building, porch, improvement of platforms, platform shelter, improvement of waiting hall, toilet, circulating area, lift and 12 m Foot Over Bridge have been taken up.

- **Manwath Road station:** The work of platform shelter has been completed. The works of improvement to station building, entrance porch, platform surfacing, waiting hall, toilet and lift have been taken up.

- **Parbhani Junction station**: The structural works of new station building, platform shelter and 12 m Foot Over Bridge have been taken up.

- **Partur station:** The works of extension to station building, entrance porch, platform shelter, platform surfacing, waiting hall, toilet, circulating area, lift and 12 m Foot Over Bridge have been taken up.

- **Purna Junction station:** The structural work of new station building, platform shelter, platform surfacing, compound wall and 12 m Foot Over Bridge have been taken up.

- **Selu station:** The works of platform shelter, platform surfacing, improvement of waiting hall, toilet, lift and 12 m Foot Over Bridge have been taken up.

Further, development / redevelopment / upgradation / modernisation of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and ongoing process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. Development / redevelopment / upgradation / modernisation of a station is carried out based on category of station/condition/traffic handled etc.

Development / Upgradation / Modernization of stations including Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is

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generally funded under Plan Head-53 ‘Customer Amenities’. The details of allocation and expenditure under Plan Head-53 are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not work-wise or station-wise or state-wise. Maharashtra is covered under the jurisdiction of four railway zones, namely, Central Railway, South Central Railway, South East Central Railway and Western Railway. For these zones, an allocation of ₹ 3,834 crore has been made for the financial year 2025-26, out of which an expenditure (up to December, 2025) of ₹ 3,122 crore has been incurred so far.

Crowd Control measures at stations:

Ministry of Railways has planned to provide holding areas for crowd management at 76 stations. The passenger holding area for crowd management planning envisages a comfortable, well-organized space with basic amenities like seating, drinking water, toilets, ticketing facilities, information displays, security checks, etc. These amenities are planned to be organised to manage large passenger footfall efficiently during peak hours.

The passenger holding area established at New Delhi Railway Station has been commissioned and it has significantly helped to ease congestion and enhance passenger convenience, particularly during peak travel periods. The holding area is equipped with a wide range of commuter-friendly facilities, including an increased number of ticket counters, Automatic Ticket Vending Machine (ATVMs), Public Announcement System (PAS), electronic train information display boards, CCTV surveillance, luggage scanners, Door Frame Metal Detector (DFMDs), uninterrupted power supply, improved night-time lighting, High Volume Low Speed (HVLS) fans, fire-fighting system, lightning protection system, RO drinking water, and separate toilets for men, women and Divyangjans, along with seating arrangements.

The provision of holding areas at other stations is at various stages of planning/execution. Planning is an iterative process requiring optimization and the time frame and other details for such optimization cannot be indicated at this stage.

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