

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 90
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2026

EXTENSION OF BARAMULLA RAILWAY LINE

*90 SHRI CHOWDRY MOHAMMAD RAMZAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

whether Government proposes to extend the Baramulla railway line up to Kupwara and further to Karnah, to improve connectivity, strengthen the border economy and promote overall development of this far-flung region?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO.90 BY SHRI CHOWDRY MOHAMMAD RAMZAN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 06.02.2026 REGARDING EXTENSION OF BARAMULLA RAILWAY LINE

To extend the rail connectivity of existing Srinagar – Baramulla section, a survey for Sopore to Kupwara (34 km) New Line has been sanctioned and the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared. However, the project has been dropped because it was found to be infeasible.

To further improve rail connectivity, in the Border region, the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of following projects have also been prepared:

- Qazigund – Srinagar – Budgam doubling (118 km)
- Baramulla to Uri new line (40 km)

After preparation of DPR, sanctioning of project requires consultation with various stakeholders 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 cannot be fixed.

Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project of total length 272 Km has been recently commissioned. USBRL project covers the districts of Udhampur, Reasi, Ramban, Srinagar, Anantnag, Pulwama, Budgam and Baramulla of Jammu and Kashmir.

The USBRL project has made substantial socio-economic contributions to the region, with employment generation being a significant aspect of its impact. The project has generated more than 5 Cr. man-days of employment.

Another crucial facet of the USBRL Project's socio-economic development efforts has been the construction of over 215 km of approach roads, which include construction of a tunnel and 320 small bridges. This road network has helped the local population in improvement of their connectivity with other areas and also improvement in socio-economic states.

With the all-weather, reliable and comfortable rail connectivity of valley portion with rest of the Indian Railway network, tourism will get a big boost.
