

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1545
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2026

RAIL CONNECTIVITY TO HALDIA PORT

1545 SHRI BISWAJIT SINHA (RAHUL SINHA):

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that only a survey of the Tamluk–Panskura 3rd and 4th line has been sanctioned to improve connectivity to Haldia Port, and that the project has not yet been sanctioned for execution;
- (b) present status of the said survey, including whether DPR has been completed and reasons for delay in according sanction;
- (c) whether congestion on the Panskura–Tamluk–Haldia section has been assessed in view of rising port cargo traffic;
- (d) timeline proposed for sanction and commencement of the 3rd & 4th line works; and
- (e) additional measures taken or proposed to strengthen rail evacuation capacity for Haldia Port?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): To improve rail connectivity to Haldia Port following works/surveys have been taken up:-

S. No.	Name of Project	Status
1	Panskura - Tamluk 3 rd and 4 th line (24 Km)	Field Survey Work has been taken up for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR)
2	Santragachi- Kharagpur 4 th Line (111 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 2,905 Cr.
3	Kharagpur –Jharsuguda (Bagdehi) 4 th Line (367 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
4	Kharagpur –Bhadrak (Ranital) 4 th Line (173 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
5	Chandanpur-Shaktigarh 4 th Line (43 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 750 Cr.
6	Sonnagar – Andal 3 rd and 4 th Line (375 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 13,606 Cr. Land acquisition is mostly completed except forest diversion of 28 hac. Works have been taken up for forest diversion, earthwork, Bridges, ROB, RUBs and Station Buildings.
7	Andal-Sainthia 3 rd and 4 th Line (73 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
8	Khanna – Sainthia 3 rd Line (84 Km)	Final Location Survey has been sanction for preparation of DPR.
9	Sainthia-Pakur 4 th Line (81 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 1,569 Cr.
10	Pakur – Gumani 4 th Line (18 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 343 Cr.

S. No.	Name of Project	Status
11	Gumani – Malda 3 rd and 4 th Line (59 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
12	Malda Town-Kumedpur 3 rd and 4 th Line (62 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
13	Kumedpur – Aluabari 3 rd and 4 th Line (129 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
14	Aluabari Road-New Jalpaiguri 3 rd and 4 th Line (57 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 1,786 Cr.
15	New Jalpaiguri – Kamakhya 3 rd and 4 th Line (445 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
16	Murarai-Barharwa 3 rd Line (49 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 978 Cr.
17	Barharwa – Bhagalpur 3 rd and 4 th Line (128 Km)	Field Survey work has been completed. DPR prepared.
18	Bhagalpur-Dumka-Rampurhat Doubling (177 Km)	Project sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 3,169 Cr.

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

West Bengal

Railway Budget:

Budget allocation in the recent years has increased significantly. Budget allotment of projects is made commensurate to the progress achieved in any project. Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal is as under:-

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹ 4,380 Cr./year
2026-27	₹ 14,205 Cr. (More than 3 times)

Projects Sanctioned:

As on 01.04.2026, 63 projects (14 New Lines, 04 Gauge Conversions and 45 Doubling), covering a total length of 5,148 Km, costing ₹83,433 crore, falling fully/partly in West Bengal are sanctioned. The summary is as under:

Category	No. of projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned till March, 2026 (in Km)	Total Exp. upto March, 2026 (₹ in Cr.)
New Lines	14	1,056	337	13,872
Gauge Conversion	4	1,201	854	3,676

Doubling/Multi-tracking	45	2,891	530	10,401
Total	63	5,148	1,721	27,949

Recently Completed Projects:

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

S. No.	Project	Cost (₹ in Cr.)
1	Rampurhat-Mandarhill New Line (130 Km)	908
2	Azimganj-Murshidabad New Line (7 Km)	164
3	Bardhaman-Katwa Gauge Conversion (52 Km)	696
4	Ahmedpur-Katwa Gauge Conversion (52 Km)	440
5	Panskura Kharagpur Doubling (45 Km)	408
6	Lalgola – Jiaganj Doubling (23 Km)	124
7	Krishnanagar-Bethuadahari Doubling (28 Km)	152
8	Nabadwipdham-Patuli Doubling (22 Km)	170
9	Bethuadhahari-Plassey Doubling (23 km)	132
10	Ambikakalna-Nabadwipdham Doubling (23 km)	145
11	Nalhati-Sagardighi Doubling (26 km)	193
12	Tamluk Jn.- Basulya Sutahata Doubling (24 km)	245
13	Plassey- Jiaganj Doubling (54 km)	234
14	Azimganj-Manigram Doubling (21 km)	150
15	New Coochbehar-Gumanihat Doubling (29 km)	330
16	New Coochbehar-Samuktala Road Doubling (29 km)	445
17	Sainthia-Tarapith 3 rd Line (22 Km)	186
18	Ambari Falakata-New Maynaguri Doubling (38 km)	843
19	Bandel-Boinchi - 3 rd Line (31 km)	546
20	Boinchi-Shaktigarh 3 rd Line (26 km)	424
21	Bazar Sau-Azimganj Jn. Doubling (42 km)	343
22	Sagardighi- Malda Town Doubling (25 Km)	248
23	Kharagpur-Narayangarh 3 rd Line (24 km)	270
24	Monigram-Nimtita Doubling (24 Km)	713
25	Purulia-Kotshila Doubling (36 Km)	393

Ongoing Projects:

Some of the projects falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal which have been taken up are as under:

S. No.	Project	Cost (₹ in Cr.)
1	Chandil- Damodar 3 rd Line(121 Km)	1,932
2	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur New Line (83 Km)	1,542
3	Sivok-Rangpo New Line (44 Km)	11,973
4	Balurghat-Hilli New Line (30 Km)	1,209
5	Kaliyaganj-Buniadpur New Line (33 Km)	1,147
6	Katihar-Kumedpur and Katihar-Mukuria Doubling (65 Km)	943
7	Kharagpur-Adityapur 3 rd Line (132 Km)	3,450
8	Narayangarh-Bhadrak 3 rd Line (153 Km)	3,425
9	Kalipahari-Bakhtarnagar 5 th Line (18Km)	350
10	Dankuni-Baltikuri 3 rd & 4 th Line (18 Km)	429
11	Murarai-Barharwa 3 rd Line (49 Km)	978
12	Ranaghat-Krishnanagar City 3 rd Line (26 Km)	446
13	Aluabari Road-New Jalpaiguri 3 rd & 4 th Line (57 Km)	1,786
14	Sainthia-Pakur 4 th Line (81 Km)	1,569
15	Santragachi- Kharagpur 4 th Line (111 Km)	2,905
16	Barbenda-Damrugutu Doubling, Damrugutu-Bokaro Steel City 3 rd & 4 th Line (52 Km)	815
17	Ranaghat-Bangaon doubling (33 Km)	396
18	Hijli to Nimpura Through yard 3 rd line (6 Km)	234
19	Doubling of New Jalpaiguri- Siliguri (7 Km)	215
20	Thakurganj-Siliguri Doubling (56 Km)	916
21	Bypass line at Rampur hat (12 Km)	190

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 operational requirements

- Socio-economic considerations
- Overall availability of funds

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.

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