

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2349
ANSWERED ON 07.08.2026

**EXPANSION OF PASSENGER RAIL SERVICES VIS-A-VIS FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION
IN COAL AND MINERAL PRODUCING REGIONS IN JHARKHAND**

2349# SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any assessment of available passenger rail services vis-a-vis freight transportation in the coal and mineral-producing regions of Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details of new passenger rail services introduced, new trains sanctioned and pending proposals in Jharkhand over the last five years; and
- (c) whether Government is considering introducing new rail services or expanding existing ones in Jharkhand keeping in view the needs of passengers in mining and industrial areas?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) As the railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced across such boundaries as per network requirement. However, Indian Railways (IR) constantly endeavour to improve connectivity for the travelling passengers. To this end, IR, during 01.04.2022 and 30.06.2026, introduced 37 pairs of trains serving various stations located in the State of Jharkhand. These are listed below:

SN	Train No. and Name
1	13379/13380 Dhanbad-Lokmanya Tilak (T) Express
2	18403/18404 Bhubaneswar-Dhanbad Express
3	16619/16620 Podanur-Dhanbad Amrit Bharat Express
4	11631/11632 Bhopal-Dhanbad Express
5	63591/63592 Asansol-Bokaro Steel City MEMU
6	63411/63412 Sahibganj-Bhagalpur MEMU
7	63383/63384 Vaishali-Koderma MEMU
8	19603/19604 Daurai-Godda Express
9	68137/68138 Tatanagar-Chaibasa MEMU
10	68127/68128 Chakulia-Tatanagar MEMU
11	18629/18630 Ranchi-Gorakhpur Express
12	14049-14050 Godda-Delhi Express

13	13427/13428 Sahibganj-Howrah Express
14	21893/21894 Tatanagar-Patna Vande Bharat Express
15	21895/21896 Tatanagar-Patna Vande Bharat Express
16	20893/20894 Tatanagar-Patna Vande Bharat Express
17	20891/20892 Tatanagar-Brahmapur Vande Bharat Express
18	22499/22500 Varanasi-Deoghar Vande Bharat Express
19	18119/18120 Tatanagar-Jaynagar Express
20	22311/22312 Godda-Lokmanya Tilak (T) Express
21	20887/20888 Ranchi-Varanasi Vande Bharat Express
22	13513/13514 Asansol-Hatia Express
23	03785/03786 Godda-Deoghar DEMU
24	15925/15926 Dibrugarh-Deoghar Express
25	15089/15090 Gomti Nagar-Godda Express
26	13333/13334 Patna-Dumka Express
27	68135/68136 Tatanagar-Badampahar MEMU
28	68043/68044 Rourkela-Tatanagar MEMU
29	68133/68134 Tatanagar-Badampahar MEMU
30	03233/03234 Deoghar-Jasidih MEMU
31	20897/20898 Howrah-Ranchi Vande Bharat Express
32	18617/18618 Ranchi-New Giridih Express
33	22349/22350 Patna-Ranchi Vande Bharat Express
34	13229/13230 Rajendra Nagar-Godda Express
35	18185/18186 Tatanagar-Godda Express
36	22305/22306 SMVT Bengaluru-Jasidih Express
37	73433/73434 Sultanganj-Deoghar DEMU

Further, Indian Railways, with a view to improve travel experience of the passengers, have introduced indigenously designed and manufactured Vande Bharat trains (Chair Car and Sleeper) and Amrit Bharat Express with modern coaches, advanced safety features and passenger amenities.

Presently, 81 Pairs of Vande Bharat Express [Chair Car], 01 pairs of Vande Bharat Express [Sleeper] & 36 pairs of Amrit Bharat Express are being operated over the Indian Railways network, of which 12 Pairs of Vande Bharat Express [Chair Car] and 05 pairs of Amrit Bharat Express are catering to the needs of passengers of stations located in the State of Jharkhand. These are listed below:

List of Vande Bharat trains serving Jharkhand:

SN	Train No. and Name
1	22349/22350 Patna - Ranchi Vande Bharat Express

2	22347/22348 Howrah - Patna Vande Bharat Express
3	20897/20898 Howrah - Ranchi Vande Bharat Express
4	20887/20888 Ranchi - Varanasi Vande Bharat Express
5	22499/22500 Deoghar - Varanasi Vande Bharat Express
6	22309/22310 Howrah - Jamalpur Vande Bharat Express
7	20871/20872 Howrah - Rourkela Vande Bharat Express
8	20893/20894 Tatanagar - Patna Vande Bharat Express
9	20891/20892 Tatanagar - Brahmapur Vande Bharat Express
10	22303/22304 Howrah - Gaya Vande Bharat Express
11	21893/21894 Tatanagar - Patna Vande Bharat Express
12	21895/21896 Tatanagar - Patna Vande Bharat Express

List of Amrit Bharat trains serving Jharkhand:

SN	Train No. and Name
1	13433/13434 SMVT Bengaluru - Malda Town Amrit Bharat Express
2	13435/13436 Malda Town - Gomtinagar Amrit Bharat Express
3	13065/13066 Howrah - Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
4	22587/22588 Sealdah - Banaras Amrit Bharat Express
5	16619/16620 Podanur-Dhanbad Amrit Bharat Express

Proposals/ requests/ suggestions/ representations, both formal and informal *inter alia* for introduction of trains are received from Members of Parliament, elected representatives, organizations/rail users etc. at various levels including Railway Board, Zonal Railways, Divisional Office etc. These proposals are examined and action as found feasible and justified is taken from time to time, which is an on-going process.

Besides, introduction of new train services, which is an on-going process, depends on various factors which include-

- Capacity of that section
- Availability of path
- Availability of required rolling stock
- Availability of matching infrastructure for rolling stock
- Maintenance requirement of railway tracks and other assets.
- Occupancy and the traffic requirement of the section.

Infrastructure projects in Jharkhand:**Railway Budget:**

Budget allocation in recent years has increased significantly. Budget allocation for infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand is as under:-

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹457 Cr./Yr
2026-27	₹7,536 Cr. (approx. 16 times)

Track Construction:

The details of constructing new tracks falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand is as under:-

Period	New Track Commissioned	Average Commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	287 Km	57 Km/year
2014-26	1,371 Km	114 Km/year (2 times)

Projects Sanctioned:

As on 01.04.2026, 36 projects (10 New Lines and 26 doubling), covering a total length of 2,887 Km, costing ₹60,064 crore falling fully/partly in Jharkhand 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 (Rs. in Cr.)
New Lines	10	753	156	4,853
Doubling/ Multi-tracking	26	2,133	458	13,558
Total	36	2,887	615	18,411

Recently Completed Projects:

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

S. No.	Name of Project	Cost (Rs. in Cr.)
1	Mandarhill- Rampurhat new line (130 Km)	908
2	Giridih-Koderma new line (111 Km)	404
3	Koderma – Ranchi new line (202 Km)	3,800
4	Ranchi-Lohardaga Gauge Conversion (111 Km)	665
5	Sahibganj-Pirpainti Doubling (23 km)	129
6	Tinpahar-Sahebganj Doubling (38 Km)	246
7	Sini-Adityapur Doubling (23 Km)	215

8	Goeilkeria-Manoharpur Doubling (28 Km)	425
9	Dongaposi-Rajkharswan 3rd line (75 Km)	629
10	Danea-Ranchi Road Doubling (25 Km)	324
11	Chakardharpur-Goilkeria 3rd line (34 Km)	383
12	Garhwa Road-Ramna doubling (32 Km)	427
13	Manoharpur-Bondamanda 3rd line (30 Km)	359
14	Jarangdih-Danea Patch Doubling (29 km)	500
15	Ranchi Road- Patratu doubling (31 Km)	348
16	Talgaria-Bokaro doubling (38 Km)	514
17	Ramna-Singrauli doubling (160 Km)	2,436

Ongoing Projects:

Details of some of the projects falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand which have been taken up are as under:

SN	Project	Cost (Rs. in Cr.)
1	Koderma-Tilaiya new line (62 Km)	2,287
2	Buramara-Chakulia new line (60 Km)	1,459
3	Dhanbad-Sonnagar 3rd line (291 Km)	7,906
4	Bondamunda-Ranchi doubling (159 Km)	3,029
5	Kharagpur-Adityapur 3 rd line (132 Km)	3,450
6	Chandil- Burnpur - 3rd line (121 Km)	1,932
7	Koderma-Barkakhana doubling (133 Km)	2,887
8	Bhagalpur-Rampurhat doubling (177 Km)	3,169
9	Gamharia-Chandil 3 rd and 4 th line (26 Km)	1,168
10	Barbenda-Damrugutu Doubling (52 Km)	815
11	Dangoaposi-Jaroli 3rd & 4th Line (43 Km)	1,638

During last three years (i.e. 2023-2024, 2024-25, 2025-2026 and current Financial Year i.e. 2026-27), total 25 Nos. of Surveys (01 New Line, 24 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand having a total length of 908 Km have been sanctioned.

Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

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 projects/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.
