

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5294
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

**5294. SHRI ABHIJIT MUKHERJEE:
SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has made a plan to amend few or all railway projects pertaining to gauge conversion, narrow bridge, electrification of railway line and elevation of platforms to accommodate EMUs in the State of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of projects including funds incurred for each project;

(c) whether the Railways has fixed any target date for completion of gauge conversion work for the Ahmadpur to Katwa segment under the Eastern Railway;

(d) if so, the details thereof including expenditure incurred thereon till date;

(e) whether there is any plan for electrification of all non-electrical sections of railway lines in the State of West Bengal (Eastern Railway/Southern Railway/NFR); and

(f) if so, the targeted date of conversion?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) and (b): No, Madam. Execution of all gauge conversion projects on all Indian Railways including West Bengal are taken up as per standard specifications which take care of all requirements like narrow bridge, electrification, elevation of platforms, etc. for smooth running of all trains including EMUs.

(c) and (d): The Ahmadpur-Katwa (51.92 km) gauge conversion section has since been completed and commissioned on 30.12.2017. An expenditure of ₹137 crore has been incurred on execution of this project.

(e) and (f): For achieving 100% electrification of all non-electrical Railway sections on Indian Railways including in the State of West Bengal falling under Eastern Railway, South Eastern Railway and Northeast Frontier Railway, Ministry of Railways have decided to electrify balance unelectrified 38000 broad gauge Route Kilometre (RKM).

In Budget 2018-19, 13675 RKM of electrification projects (including 802 RKM of State of West Bengal) have been included subject to necessary approvals. These electrification projects are proposed to be completed by 2021-22.
