GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3989 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2019

DOUBLING/ELECTRIFICATION OF JHANSI-MANIKPUR RAIL LINE

†3989. SHRI R. K. SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the project work of doubling and electrification of Jhansi-Manikpur via Banda-Chitrakant Dham Karvi rail line under North Central Railway is in progress;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the current status of the said project;
- (c) the prescribed time frame to complete the said project; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways for timely completion of the said project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3989 BY SHRI R. K. SINGH PATEL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.7.2019 REGARDING DOUBLING/ELECTRIFICATION OF JHANSI-MANIKPUR RAIL LINE.

- (a) and (b) The work of doubling of Jhansi-Manikpur and Kherar-Bhimsen (Kanpur) 411 km and Chord line at Mahoba and Khairar (14 km) was included in Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approvals. After requisite approvals, Project was sanctioned with cost of ₹4329.53 crore in March, 2018 and agencies for construction work in Barwasagar-Mauranipur (42.38 km) and Harpalpur-Mahoba (52.84 km) sections have been finalized.
- (c) and (d) The timely completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities (both underground and over ground), 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 due to climatic considerations, encountering unforeseen conditions like earthquake, flooding, excessive rains, strikes of labour, orders of Hon'ble Courts, situation and conditions of working agencies/contractors etc. All these factors affects the completion time and cost of the project, which is finally worked out at the completion stage. Since so far, complete land has not been acquired and handed over by State Government to Railway, therefore, no confirmed time frame can be fixed for completion of project at this stage.

Nevertheless, in the overall interest of the nation and to ensure that projects are completed in time without cost overrun, lot of monitoring is done in Railways at various levels (field level, Divisional level, Zonal level and Board level) and regular meetings are held with the officials of State Government and concerned authorities to resolve the pending issues that are obstructing the progress of projects. Railway has also adopted the concept of incentives to the contractor in the form of bonus clause in contracts which will further enhance the pace of execution of projects.

For important projects, capacity enhancement projects, last mile connectivity etc. institutional financing has been done by arranging loan of ₹1.5 lakh crore, which has increased Railways' capacity for committed fund provision for essential projects.
