

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 195
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2022**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

**†195. SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:
SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:
SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to lay new Rail Lines and operate new trains in West Bengal;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the project-wise funds allocated towards new Railway Projects for the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Haryana during the last five years and the current year; and**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to resume the services of trains which were discontinued during the period of Covid?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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. 195 BY SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA, MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE, SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU, SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK, SHRIMATI GEETA KORA, SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL AND SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.12.2022 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

(a) to (d): Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not State wise as Railway projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

However, as on 01.04.2022, 50 Railway projects (16 new lines, 04 gauge conversions and 30 doublings), costing ₹ 51,645 crore, covering total length of 4,365 Km, falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 2,065 Km length have been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 20,974 crore has been incurred upto March'22.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in allocation of funds and commensurate commissioning of Infrastructure projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of West Bengal, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹ 4,612 crore per year from ₹ 4,380 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 5% more than Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹ 5,033 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (15% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹ 5,246 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (20% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹ 6,988 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (60% more than the Average Annual

Budget Outlay of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹ 10,262 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 134% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹ 4,380 crore per year).

During 2014-22, 998 km sections (88 km new line, 151 km Gauge conversion and 759 km doubling) falling fully/partly in the state of West Bengal have been commissioned at an average rate 124.75 km per year.

Railway Infrastructure Projects in the State of West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Haryana are covered as under:-

S. No.	State	Railway Zones Concerned
1	West Bengal	Eastern Railway (ER), South Eastern Railway (SER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR)
2	Bihar	East Central Railway (ECR), Eastern Railway (ER), North Eastern Railway (NER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR)
3	Madhya Pradesh	South East Central (SECR), Western Railway (WR), West Central Railway (WCR), South Central Railway (SCR), North Central Railway (NCR), North Western Railway (NWR), East Central Railway (ECR) and Central Railway (CR)
4	Jharkhand	East Central Railway (ECR), Eastern Railway (ER), South Eastern Railway (SER) and South East Central Railway (SECR)
5	Haryana	Northern Railway (NR), North Central Railway (NCR) and North Western Railway (NWR)

The project-wise details including cost, expenditure and outlay are available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board >

About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget)>Pink Book (year)>Railways-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Indian Railways do not operate train services on state-wise basis as Railway network straddles across state boundaries. However, subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources, introduction of train services is an ongoing process over Indian Railways.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Indian Railways had discontinued all regular passengers carrying trains w.e.f. 23rd March, 2020. Since November, 2021 Mail/ Express trains are being operated with regular numbers as per rationalized time table. Besides, passenger train services are being operationalized in a phased manner.
