

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 205
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2022**

RESTORATION OF WESTERN RAILWAY TRAIN SERVICES

†205. SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of trains that were discontinued on Delhi-Mumbai via Ratlam route of Western Railway due to Covid-19 along with the details of curtailed stoppages;

(b) the time by which the said train services on this rail route are likely to be restored;

(c) the details of the number of sanctioned ongoing and closed trains projects in Madhya Pradesh and the reasons for its closure;

(d) the time frame which has been fixed to complete the work of Indore-Dahod via Jhabua rail project along with cost of the project at present;

(e) the details of physical and financial progress and the targets fixed to be achieved in this financial year; and

(f) the total budget provided this year in order to complete the said project?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b) Indian Railways, to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, had discontinued all regular passenger carrying trains w.e.f. 23.03.2020 and only special trains were being operated. Indian Railways have also undertaken rationalization of time table in a

scientific manner with the assistance of IIT-Bombay. The exercise has been undertaken inter alia to provide for better passenger safety by creating maintenance corridor blocks, minimizing conflicts in existing time table etc. The exercise also included rationalization of train services and stoppages as per operational feasibility and commercial justification. Accordingly, since November-2021, Mail/Express services are being operated with rationalized time table. Services of 19023/24 Mumbai-Firozpur Janta Express and 185 stoppages of certain trains from some stations, located on the Delhi-Ratlam- Mumbai Route have been discontinued, as a part of the said exercise.

(c) to (f): The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise, District wise or area wise as the Railways' projects may span across State/District/Area boundaries.

However, as on 01.04.2022, 33 Railway projects (08 new lines, 02 gauge conversion and 23 doubling), costing ₹ 84,469 crore for 5,872 km length falling fully/partly in Madhya Pradesh are under different stages of planning/approval/execution. Out of which, 1,319 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 23,780 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. Madhya Pradesh is covered by Central Railway, East Central Railway, North Central Railway, West Central Railway, Western Railway, South East Central Railway - Railway zones. Zone wise details of Railway projects, including cost, expenditure and outlay are made 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)> Rail Budget/Pink Book (year)> Railway-wise Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Zone wise details of New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects is also available. Indian Railways has taken up Dahod-Indore via Sardarpur, Jhabua & Dhar new line (205 km) project. Cost of project is ₹ 1873 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 890 crore has been incurred on the project till March, 2022. An outlay of ₹ 265 crore has been provided for the project for the year 2022-23. Indore-Rau-Tihi (21 km) and Dahod-Katwara (11 km) sections have been commissioned. Also further, Land acquisition & Forest land diversion land have been taken up. Work has been taken up in available land.

Timely completion of Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project(s) site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, etc. and all these factors affect the completion of the project(s). With above constraints, Railways is making all efforts for expeditious completion of project(s).

For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever Budget allocation of ₹12,110 crore has been provided for infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/partly in the state of Madhya Pradesh, which is 1816% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹ 632 crore per year). During 2014-22, 1515 km sections (293 km New line, 631 km Gauge conversion and 591 km Doubling), falling fully/partly in the state of Madhya Pradesh, have been commissioned at an average rate of 189.38 km per year, which is 553% more than average annual commissioning achieved during 2009-14 (29 km per year).
