

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1139
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

JALESWAR-DIGHA NEW BROAD GAUGE RAILWAY LINE PROJECT

1139. SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Jaleswar - Digha new Broad Gauge rail line project was sanctioned in 2010-11 but the land acquisition process has not been started by South Eastern Railways;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the present status and timeline for completion of this important project?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): Digha-Jaleswar (41 km) New Line project was sanctioned in 2010-11. The anticipated cost of the project is ₹1584 crore. The execution of the project could not be taken up as the State Government of West Bengal has not taken up land acquisition in West Bengal portion.

...2/-

Completion of any Railway project/s depend 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. All these factors differ from project to project and affect the completion time of the project. As such, firm completion time of the project can not be ascertained at this stage.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 80 BY SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.12.2022 REGARDING STATUS OF KHURDA-BOLANGIR RAIL LINE.

(a): Railway has taken up the work on Khurda Road-Bolangir New Line (289 km). This Project is of 289 km length and divided into two parts. 1st part is from km 0 to km 112 and 2nd part is from km 112 to km 289. 1st part (km 0 to km 112) is fully funded by Railway, while, 2nd part (from km 112 to km 289) is on cost sharing in which, the land is to be provided free of cost by Government of Odisha along with sharing 50% cost of construction.

The anticipated cost of this project is ₹3792 crore. So far, an expenditure of ₹2105 crore has been incurred on the project. An outlay of ₹891.12 crore (₹655 crore GBS(Gross Budgetary Support) + deposit ₹236.12 crore) has been provided in the financial year 2022-23. This project involves acquisition of 4917.99 acre private land, 1275.81 acre Govt. land and forest land diversion of 1844.40 acre forest land. Out of which acquisition of 4823.98 acre private land, 1011.62 acre Govt. land and forest land diversion of 170.04 acre land has been completed. Govt. of Odisha has to expedite balance land acquisition of 94.01 acre private land, 264.19 acre Govt. land and forest land diversion of 1674.37 acre forest land. So far, 115.66 km length of the project has been commissioned. Work has been taken up in available land. ₹371.85 crore has been spent on this project during the financial year 2021-22.

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, 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 conditions etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project.

(b): At present, there is no proposal to connect Puranakatak to Phulbani.

(c): Gopalpur-Rairakhol (270 km) new line has been identified by Odisha Rail Infrastructure Development Limited (ORIDL), the JV (Joint Venture) Company of State Govt. of Odisha and Ministry of Railways. The alignment of this project passes through Kandhmal district. Detailed Project Report of the project has been prepared. Further consideration of the project is possible once the results are firmed up thereon.
