

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3598
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023**

LAYING RAIL LINES IN BIHAR

3598. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to lay railway lines in various parts in Bihar;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof Division and district-wise along with the current status thereof;**
- (c) the details of funds allocated to Bihar for the purpose;**
- (d) whether all these projects are running behind the targeted time and if so, the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to complete these projects in a time bound manner?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3598 BY SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING LAYING RAIL LINES IN BIHAR

(a) to (e): Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not Division wise/District wise/State wise as Railway projects may span across Division/District/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, 52 Railway Infrastructure projects (32 new lines, 04 gauge conversions and 16 doublings), costing ₹66,597 crore, covering total length of 5,004 Km falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 1,240 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹21,038 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. These include:-

- 32 New Line Projects, covering a length of 2,875 km at a cost of ₹44,692 crore, out of which 435 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹9,775 crore have been incurred upto March, 2022.**
- 4 Gauge Conversion Projects, covering a length of 849 km at a cost of ₹ 5,591 crore, out of which 682 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4,219 crore have been incurred upto March, 2022.**
- 16 Doubling Projects, covering a length of 1,280 km at a cost of ₹16,314 crore, out of which 122 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,044 crore have been incurred upto March, 2022.**

Railway Infrastructure Projects falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar are covered under East Central Railway (ECR), Eastern Railway (ER), North Eastern Railway (NER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zones of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of project 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).

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/partly in State of Bihar, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹3,061 crore per year from ₹1,132 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 170% more than Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. Annual Budget allocation for these projects have been increased to ₹4,093 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (262% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹4,489 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (297% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹5,560 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (391% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14) and ₹6,606 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 (484% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2023-24, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹8,505 crore has been proposed for these projects, which is 651% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹1,132 crore per year).

During 2014-22, 1096 Km length (317 Km New Lines, 425 Km Gauge Conversion and 354 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar have been commissioned at an average rate 137 Km/year, which is 115% more than the commissioning during 2009-14 (63.6 Km/year).

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of State share by the State Government in cost sharing projects, 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 time of the project/s. With above constraints, every effort is being made to complete these projects at the earliest.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti Directorate in the Ministry and Gati Shakti units in field, (ii) prioritisation of projects, (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (iv) delegation of powers at field level, (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (vi) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.
