## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3664 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023

### **DOUBLING/ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAY TRACKS**

### **†3664. SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has not attained the target of land development and modernization of facilities fixed in Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for slow progress in achieving the target of doubling and electrification of railway tracks; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways for improving railway infrastructure rapidly?

#### **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.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3664 BY SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING DOUBLING/ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAY TRACKS.

- (a) & (b): The development of railway land and modernization of facilities on Indian Railways is an ongoing process. State wise targets of land and modernization of facilities are not maintained.
- (c): Railway projects are not sanctioned State-wise, but sanctioned Zone-wise. Railway projects may span across State boundaries. As on 01.04.2022, 12 Doubling Projects covering total length of 2,522 km, costing ₹ 29,639 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Rajasthan are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 434 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 4,860 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. During 2009-14, 62 km Doubling sections falling fully/partly in Rajasthan have been commissioned at an average rate of 12.4 km per year. During 2014-22, 1375 km doubling sections falling fully/partly in Rajasthan have been commissioned at an average rate of 171.88 km per year, which is 1286.13% more than commissioning during 2009-14(12.4 Km/Yr.)

As on 01.04.2022, across Indian Railways 227 doubling projects covering total length of 22,719 km, costing approx. ₹ 2.83 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 5,199 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹ 1.02 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. During 2009-14, 1875 km doubling have been commissioned at an average rate of 375 km per year. These commissioning during 2014-22, have increased to 11,151 km sections at an average rate of 1394 km per year, which is 272% more than commissioning during 2009-14 (375 Km/Yr.)

Significant progress has been achieved in Electrification of Railway track during last eight years. Broad Gauge (BG) routes of 30,446 Route Kilometer (RKM) on Indian Railways have been electrified during 2014-22 against electrification of 4698 RKM during corresponding period 2006-2014 thereby 548% improvement.

The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of 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. With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project/s expeditiously.

(d): Various steps taken by Indian Railways for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti Directorate in Ministry of Railways & Gati Shakti Units in divisions (ii) prioritisation of projects (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iv) delegation of powers at field level (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (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.

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