

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3670
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

3670. MS. NUSSRAT JAHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway projects covering fully/partially in West Bengal that are pending for completion till date;**
- (b) the details of new lines, doubling, electrification, etc., pending for completion;**
- (c) the timeline for completion of the above works;**
- (d) the budget allocated for each of these projects falling fully/partially in West Bengal in 2023-24 Budget; and**
- (e) the annual average budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works in West Bengal since 2014-15?**

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. 3670 BY MS. NUSSRAT JAHAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

(a) to (e): Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not State/District-wise as Railway projects may span across State/District boundaries.

As on 01.04.2022, 50 Railway infrastructure 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. These include:-

- 16 New line projects covering total length of 1,538 Km at a cost of ₹25,054 crore, out of which 731 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹10,249 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.**
- 4 Gauge conversion projects covering total length of 1,200 Km at a cost of ₹7,848 crore, out of which 848 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,584 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.**
- 30 Doubling projects covering total length of 1,627 km at a cost of ₹18,744 crore, out of which 486 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,141 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.**

Presently, 03 Nos. Railway Electrification projects falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal with total cost of ₹893 crore have been taken up.

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry 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. With above constraints, every effort is being made to complete these projects at the earliest.

Railway Infrastructure Projects in the State of West Bengal is covered by Eastern Railway (ER), South Eastern Railway (SER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zones of Indian Railways. 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).

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. Annual Budget allocation for these project 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) , ₹6,988 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (60%

more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14) and ₹10,262 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 (134% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2023-24, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹11,970 crore has been proposed for these projects, which is 173% 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.
