

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 281
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023**

EXPANSION OF RAILWAY NETWORK

**†*281. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to expand railway network and run new trains in West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to start Vande Bharat Train from Bhagalpur Railway Station or to include the said Station on the route of Agartala Rajdhani Express;**
- (d) if so, the project-wise total amount of funds allocated for new rail projects to West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh during the last five years and current year;**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to connect Bhind and Datia districts to any other railway line and also connect the said districts to Delhi and Bhopal; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF
STARRED QUESTION NO. 281 BY MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE AND
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA
ON 09.08.2023 REGARDING EXPANSION OF RAILWAY NETWORK**

(a) to (d) : The Railway projects are sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries/District boundaries. Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. Railway Infrastructure 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 liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

Indian Railways(IR) constantly endeavours to improve connectivity between various parts of the country and to this end, IR introduces new services, extends and increases the frequencies of existing services and diverts train services, which are ongoing processes subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability etc. However, as Railway network straddle across State boundaries, trains are introduced across State boundaries as per network requirement. At present, Bhagalpur is served by 62 mail/express services and 28 passenger services.

During the last three years i.e. FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and current FY 2023-24, 141 Surveys (New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling) of a total length of 7217 km have been sanctioned and 11 Projects (New Line Gauge Conversion and Doubling) of a total length of 282 Kms, costing approx. ₹4164 Crore have been

sanctioned which fall fully/partly in the states of West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

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).

West Bengal

As on 01.04.2023, 44 Railway Infrastructure Projects (16 New line, 04 Gauge Conversion and 24 Doubling) of total length 4,209 km, costing ₹50,915 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of West Bengal are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 2,033 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹23,298 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

These Projects falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal are covered in Eastern Railway (ER), Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) and South Eastern Railway (SER) of Indian Railways.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/partly in West Bengal is as under:

Period	Average Outlay	Percentage more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹4380 crore/year	-
2014-23	₹5621 crore/year	28% more
2023-24	₹11970 crore	173% more

During 2014-23, 1137 Km sections (113 km of New line, 151 Km of Gauge Conversion and 873 km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal have been commissioned in the state at an average rate 126.33 km per year.

JAMMU & KASHMIR:

As on 01.04.2023, 1 New line project covering total length of 272 Km, costing ₹37,012 crore, falling in Jammu & Kashmir has been taken up out of which 161 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹34,261 crore has been incurred upto March,2023.

Railway infrastructural Projects in the State of Jammu & Kashmir are covered by Northern Railway Zone of Indian Railways.

Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/partly in Jammu & Kashmir is as under:

Period	Average Outlay	Percentage more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹1044 crore/year	-
2014-23	₹2746 crore/year	163% more
2023-24	₹6003 crore	475% more

During the period 2014-23, 39 km sections (25 km New line and 14 km Doubling) falling fully/partly in Jammu & Kashmir have been commissioned at an average rate 4.33 Km per year.

BIHAR

As on 01.04.2023, 54 Railway Infrastructure Projects (32 New Lines, 04 Gauge Conversions and 18 Doubling), of total length of 4,950 Km, costing ₹70,672 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 1505 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹25,702 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

Railway infrastructural Projects falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar are covered in East Central Railway (ECR), Eastern Railway (ER), North Eastern Railway (NER), Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zone of Indian Railways.

Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Bihar is as under:

Period	Average Outlay	Percentage more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹1132 crore/year	-
2014-23	₹4006 crore/year	254% more
2023-24	₹8505 crore	651% more

During 2014-23, 1308 Km sections (347 Km New Lines, 475 Km Gauge Conversion and 486 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar has been commissioned at an average rate of 145.33 Km/year, which is 129% more than the commissioning during 2009-14 (63.6 Km/year).

MADHYA PRADESH:

As on 01.04.2023, 32 Railway Infrastructure Projects (08 New Lines, 02 Gauge Conversions and 22 Doubling), of total length of 5,539 Km, costing ₹77,797 crore falling fully/partly in Madhya Pradesh are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which 1,557 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹31,111 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

Railway Infrastructure Projects falling fully/partly in the State of Madhya Pradesh are covered in South East Central Railway, West Central Railway, Central Railway, North Western Railway, East Central Railway, North Central Railway and Western Railway.

The Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Madhya Pradesh is as under:

Period	Average Outlay	Percentage more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹632 crore/year	-
2014-23	₹ 6181 crore/year	878% more
2023-24	₹13607 crore	2053% more

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During 2014-23, 1741 km sections (293 km New line, 636 km Gauge conversion and 812 km Doubling), falling fully/partly in the state of Madhya Pradesh, have been commissioned at an average rate of 193.44 km per year, which is 567% more than average annual commissioning achieved during 2009-14 (29 Km/Yr.).

(e) and (f) Bhind and Datia Railway Stations are on the existing Indian Railways network and well connected to both Delhi and Bhopal. Datia and Bhind stations are also connected with each other via Gwalior junction. Final Location Survey work between Bhind-Mahoba via Orai New line has been sanctioned. Work for laying 3rd line between Jhansi to Mathura via Datia (274 Km) costing ₹5190 crore has been taken up.
