

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1063
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN ODISHA

†1063. SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of all the railway projects and works including laying of railway lines introduction of new trains, resuming suspended trains, setting railway workshops, station beautification, etc. carried out in the districts of Kalahandi and Nuapada of Odisha during the last four years and the current year;**
- (b) the details of the expenditure made on all the above said works, project-wise;**
- (c) whether any new railway projects are being proposed by the Railways in the districts of Western Odisha in the near future; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1063 BY SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.07.2023 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN ODISHA

(a) to (d): The Railway projects are sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State /District wise as the Railways' projects may span across State/District boundaries.

As on 01.04.2023, 35 Projects (12 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion and 22 Doubling) of total length 4,257 Km, costing ₹ 52,189 crore, falling fully/partly in Odisha are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 1184 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 20,141 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

Out of these, nine (09) projects (3 New Line & 6 Doubling Works) of total length of 99 Km falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha including those in western Odisha have been sanctioned in last four years (2019-20 to 2022-23) and current year (2023-24).

As on 01.04.2023, 64 nos. of survey works (26 New Line & 38 Doubling) have been taken up having total length 3414 km, falling fully/partly in the state of Odisha including Kalahandi District, Nuapada District and Western Odisha. Demands of Railway Projects are raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives and Railways' own requirements. They 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.

Indian Railways (IR) do not run train services on State/District wise basis as Railway network straddles across State/District boundaries. However, train services, serving Kalahandi and Naupada districts which were discontinued during Covid-19, have now been resumed. Further, introduction of train services over Indian Railways is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources, etc.

The work of setting up of Electric Loco periodical overhauling workshop at Kalahandi was sanctioned in 2017-18 under Plan Head-42. Presently, the land acquisition from the State government is under process for the project.

Modernization/beautification of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and inter-se priority, subject to availability of funds and priority is accorded to higher category of stations over lower category of stations while sanctioning and executing the works.

Recently, the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme has been launched for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways. 3 nos. of Railway stations viz. Bhawanipatna, Kesinga & Khariar Road in Kalahandi & Nuapada districts of Odisha have been identified for upgradation under

this scheme. This scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach. It involves preparation of Master Plans and their implementation in phases to improve the amenities at the stations like improvement of station access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lift/escalators as necessary, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi, kiosks for local products through schemes like 'One Station One Product', better passenger information systems, executive lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping etc. keeping in view the necessity at each such station.

The scheme also envisages improvement of building, integrating the station with both sides of the city, multimodal integration, amenities for Divyangjans, sustainable and environment friendly solutions, provision of ballast less tracks, 'Roof Plazas' as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.

Railway Projects in Odisha are covered under East Coast Railway, South Eastern Railway and South East Central Railway zones of Indian Railway. Zonal Railway 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.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of Projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/partly in State of Odisha, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹ 4,126 crore per year, which is 392% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of ₹ 838 crore per year during 2009-14. The allocation has been increased to ₹ 4,568 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (445% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹ 5,296 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (532% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹ 6,471 crore for Financial Year 2021-22 (672% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹ 9,734 crore for Financial Year 2022-23 (which is 1062% more than the Average Annual Budget outlay of 2009-14). For FY 2023-24, highest ever budget outlay of ₹ 10,012 crore has been provided for these works, which is 1095% more than average annual budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹ 838 Crore/Year).

During 2014-23, 1583 km sections (384 Km New Line and 1199 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha have been commissioned at an average rate of 175.89 Km per year, which is 229% more than commissioning during 2009-14 (53.4 Km/year).
