GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1079 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

†1079. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the sanctioned railway projects across the country particularly in Maharashtra during each of the last six years;
- (b) the details of the projects under construction for more than ten years along with the funds sanctioned for each project particularly in Maharashtra, State-wise;
- (c) the corrective measures taken or being taken by the Railways to complete the pending railway projects;
- (d) whether any time-line has been fixed for this purpose; and
- (e) if so, the district-wise details thereof?

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. 1079 BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR AND SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.07.2023 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

(a) The Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/District-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are included in the Budget subject to requisite approvals. Sanctioning of projects is a continuous and ongoing process.

During the last six years i.e. FY 2017-18, FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 (upto 17th July, 2023), 180 New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects of a total length of 8,053 km have been sanctioned across Indian Railways including the State of Maharashtra. Zonal Railway wise details are as under:-

Railway	2017- 18	2018- 19	2019- 20	2020- 21	2021- 22	2022- 23	2023- 24(upto 17 th july)
Central Railway	3	2	1	0	0	2	0
Eastern Railway	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
East Central Railway	4	3	0	0	0	6	4
East Coast Railway	2	0	2	0	0	4	8
Northern Railway	5	3	1	1	1	2	0
North Central Railway	3	0	8	1	0	3	0
North Eastern Railway	7	1	1	1	0	0	0
Northeast Frontier Railway	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
North Western Railway	0	0	2	0	1	9	2
Southern Railway	4	1	1	0	1	3	0

South Central Railway	1	0	0	0	1	5	3
South Eastern Railway	1	1	3	0	1	1	0
South East Central Railway	0	2	0	0	0	12	0
South Western Railway	1	0	5	1	0	1	0
Western Railway	1	3	2	1	2	16	3
West Central Railway	0	1	2	0	0	0	0

During the last six years i.e. FY 2017-18, FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 (upto 17th July, 2023), 12 New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects of a total length of 1,048 km costing approx. ₹12,367 Crore have been sanctioned which fall fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) to (e): As on 01.04.2023, 34 projects (16 New Lines, 02 Gauge Conversions and 16 Doubling), of total length of 5,872 Km, costing 380,184 crore falling fully/partly in Maharashtra are in planning/sanction/construction stage, out of which 1,421 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of 323,964 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

Zone-wise details of all 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). Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Average Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in Maharashtra, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹4,801 crore which is 310% more than Average Annual Budget Allocation of ₹1171 crore per year during 2009-14. The allocation has been increased to ₹7,281 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (522% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹6,700 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (472% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹8,547 crore for Financial Year 2021-22 (630% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹11,903 crore in FY 2022-23. For FY 2023-24, highest ever budget outlay of ₹13,539 crore has been provided for these works, which is 1056% more than the Average Annual Budget Allocation of 2009-14 (₹1,171 crore per year).

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. and all these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project(s). Various steps taken by the Government for speedy sanction and implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (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. This has led to substantial increase in rate of commissioning since 2014.

During 2014-23, 1,472 km sections (147 km New Line, 136 km Gauge Conversion and 1189 km Doubling) falling fully/partly in Maharashtra have been commissioned at an average rate 163.56 km per year, which is 180% more than average commissioning during 2009-14 (58.4 km/year).

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