

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3328

TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023

RAIL NETWORK PROJECTS IN BUNDELKHAND

†3328. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has entered into any agreement with the private sector for the speedy expansion of the rail network in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government for early completion of pending rail projects in the country; and

(d) the details of all the proposed/pending rail network projects in Bundelkhand and the time by which these are likely to be started/completed?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND

ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

As on 01.04.2023, across Indian Railways including Bundelkhand, 459 Railway Infrastructure projects (189 New Line, 39 Gauge Conversion and 231 Doubling) of total length 46,360 Km, costing approx. 7.18 lakh crore are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 11,872 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. 2.61 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

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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)

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 approval and implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (ii) prioritization 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, across Indian Railway, 25,871 km sections (5,785 km New Line, 5,749 km Gauge Conversion and 14,337 km Doubling) have been commissioned at an average of 2,875 km/year which is 89% more than the average commissioning during 2009-14 (1,520 km/year).